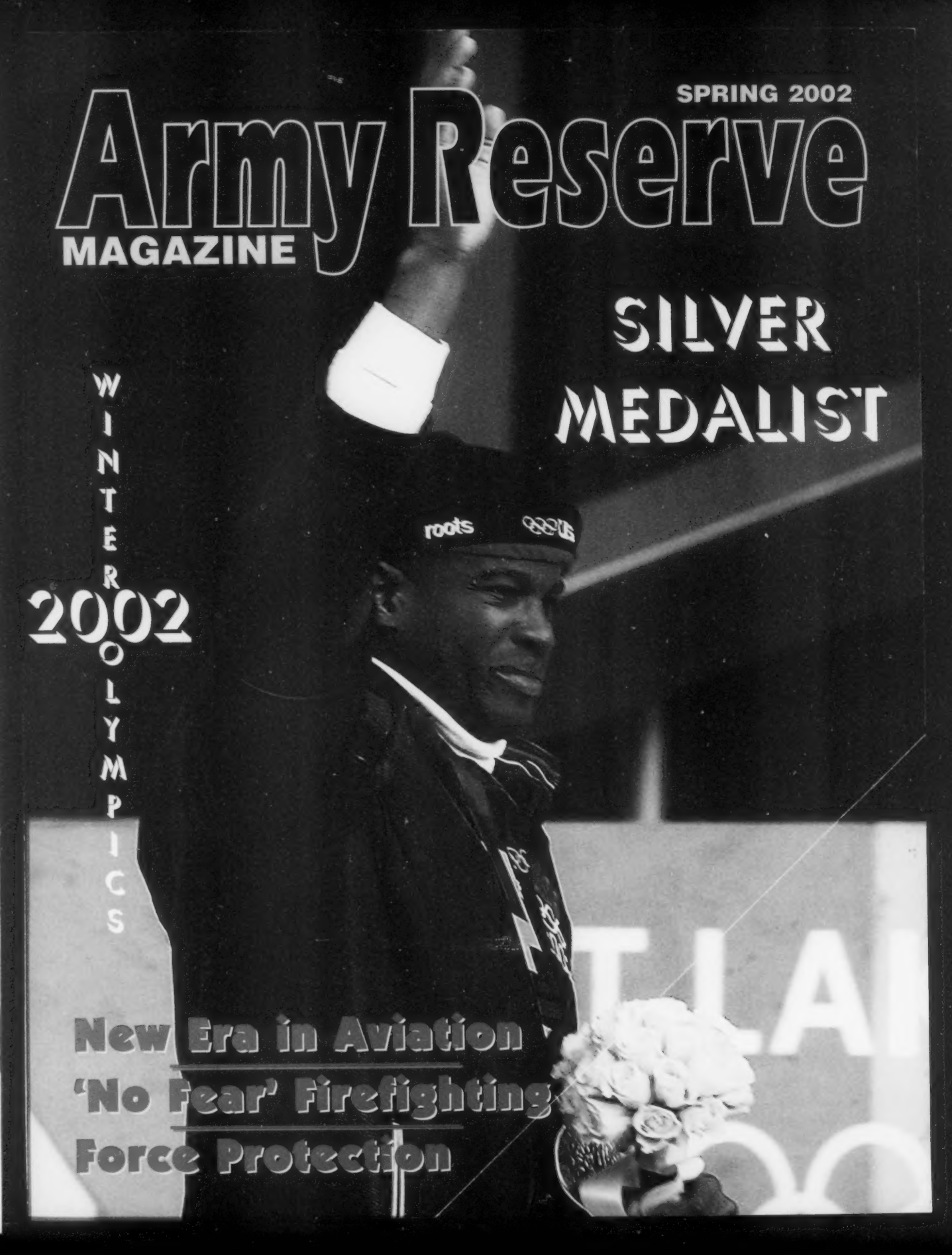
SPRING 2002

Army Reserve MAGAZINE

SILVER MEDALIST

WINTER OLYMPICS 2002



New Era in Aviation

'No Fear' Firefighting

Force Protection

Army Reserve

Volume 48, Number 1, Spring 2002
Since 1954. America's largest circulating military magazine

LT. GEN. THOMAS J. PLEWES — Chief, Army Reserve
CSM. ALEX R. LACKEY — Command Sergeant Major of the Army Reserve
COL. GARY M. PROFIT — Dir., Public Affairs & Liaison Directorate
MR. AL SCHILF — Chief, Public Affairs Branch
MASTER SGT. VICKI WASHINGTON — Editor-in-Chief

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22 Reservist helps 'heal wound' following tragedy at sea

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26 Easing a military child's burden

FRONT COVER: Army Reserve 2nd Lt. Garrett Hines, USA-1 brakeman, waves to the crowd after receiving his silver medal for the men's four-man bobsled during a 2002 Winter Olympic Games medal ceremony in Salt Lake City, Feb. 24, 2002. (U.S. Navy photo by Journalist 1st Class Preston Keres)
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100th Div. (IT) BIDS Training, *page 36*

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9-11 Plus Six Months

On March 11, we noted the six-month mark since the day that no American will ever forget.

So much has happened in that time. We have buried our dead with dignity and honor. We have comforted their family members and will always hold them in our hearts and remember them in our prayers. Those injured in the Pentagon attack have returned to duty. Dedicated work crews have made remarkable progress in rebuilding the damaged part of the Pentagon. We have also made remarkable progress in the war against terrorism. The Taliban regime no longer rules. Members of that regime and the al Qaeda terrorists they supported are dead, in hiding, cornered in pockets in the mountains or being held as detainees at Camp X-Ray in Cuba.

All this has taken place in the half year since 9-11. We know there is much more to do as we start on the next six months. The global war against terrorism is far from over. The heaviest ground fighting yet took place in early March during Operation ANACONDA in eastern Afghanistan. There will be more battles like it as our forces continue to seek out, engage and defeat the enemy. There will be other battlefronts outside Afghanistan. We take pride in the magnificent courage and tenacity displayed by our fellow soldiers battling in the bitter cold and high altitudes of the Afghan mountains against a tough foe. But we also take tremendous pride in what Army Reserve soldiers are doing to defend our Nation and to defeat terrorism. What we do may not make headlines, but what the Army Reserve does helps ensure victory.

We now have more than 450 units and about 15,000 Army Reservists supporting the ongoing operations around the globe. We continue to be what we have been since September 11 — fully and decisively engaged in countless ways: With their varied capabilities — force protection, security, investigation support, internment operations, prisoner transport — Army Reserve Military Police units are in high-demand. More than half of our MP units have been called up and more can expect to be mobilized. Those units not yet called up will follow the lead of units like the 447th MP Company from Akron and Zanesville, Ohio, now serving at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., in a fully integrated, all-component battalion. This example is repeated wherever our MPs serve, such as at Camp X-Ray, Guantanamo Bay, where more than 200 Army Reserve MPs are serving. Other units setting the standard are the 421st Quartermaster Company from Fort Valley, Ga., and the 310th Chemical Company from Fort McClellan, Ala. The 421st helped avert starvation in Afghanistan by rigging humanitarian loads of food for air-drops to the people there. The 310th, continues to provide early detection capabilities against biological attack wherever needed.

It is not just our units that perform well. Dr. (Lt. Col.) Juan DeRojas, a vascular surgeon from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., provided a capability that the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany lacked, making it possible to give our casualties from Afghanistan the best medical treatment. These are but a few brief snapshots. Everywhere that our citizen-soldiers have served and continue to serve, they do so professionally and with great distinction. As Gen. Tommy R. Franks, the Commander-in-Chief of U.S. Central Command, recently said of the Reservists supporting his operations, they "come trained and ready to do the work. "This no-nonsense assessment from the warfighting CINC, echoed by many others, shows the respect that the Army Reserve and its citizen-soldiers have earned by their deeds. This respect is not new. It had been well-earned long before September 11. It will remain long after this war ends and we are once again at peace.

Peace, however, may be long in coming. We have seen that our enemy has plenty of fight left. We also know this conflict will not end in Afghanistan.

Our challenge is to maintain our current momentum in the months and perhaps years ahead, and to live up to the implicit contract we have with every one of the thousands of soldiers we have called to the colors. That contract is simple: You will not be called without a mission; once mobilized, you will not stay longer than necessary; and, even though you are activated, we continue to be responsible for you and your family.

The soldiers who have answered the Nation's call so promptly are heroes, plain and simple. We must continue to support them in this time of great sacrifice. We must apply the lessons learned from units now serving so as to streamline our procedures and facilitate the mobilization of those called up in the future. We must also be sure to properly welcome our soldiers home like the heroes they are. They must be honored in the manner they deserve, as must all who follow them until final victory. Much has been accomplished in the six months since 9-11. Much more remains to be done. Our resolve remains constant: we are as committed to this struggle today as we were on the evening of September 11, when the flames and smoke still rose from the Pentagon, the World Trade Center and a quiet field in Pennsylvania.

Lt. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes
Chief, Army Reserve

From the Command Sergeant Major

Do you know what to do to get promoted?

Command Sgt. Maj. Alex R. Lackey

As I travel around the world I ask soldiers and junior NCOs, "When are you eligible for promotion?" In most cases the answer is I do not know.

During my career, my NCOs always counseled me and told me exactly when I was eligible for my next promotion. But that does not mean a soldier cannot use the references available to find out for his or herself what promotion criteria applies.

AR 140-158 Enlisted Personnel Classification, Promotion and Reduction dated 17 December 1997 Chapters 3, 4, and 5 will be your primary reference. (Change 4 Effective 17 January 1998 to AR 140-158 does not apply.).

Following is some basic criteria for advancement and promotion.

For advancement to Private Second Class, Chapter 3, Soldiers assigned to Troop Program Units (TPU), paragraph 3-6 (page 21) gives the criteria for advancement to Private. That is:

a. Normal advancement: completes 6 months of service from date of entry on Initial Active Duty Training (IADT).

b. Accelerated advancement: At least 4 months of service from date of entry on IADT.

Paragraph 3-7 outlines advancement to Private First Class:

a. Normal advancement: 4 months time in grade (TIMIG) and 12 months Time in service (TIS)

b. Accelerated advancement: Wave two months of the TIMIG and 6 months TIS.

Similarly, paragraph 3-8 provide the information for advancement to Specialist and promotion to Corporal:

a. Normal advancement: 6 months TIMIG and 24 months TIS.

b. Accelerated advancement: 3 months TIMIG and 12 months TIS.

Promotions to the Noncommissioned Officer ranks are covered in paragraph 3-11:

a. Primary zone (PZ) to Sergeant: 12 months TIMIG and 36 months TIS.

b. Secondary zone (SZ) to Sergeant: waved to 6 months TIMIG and 18 months TIS.

c. PZ to Staff Sergeant: 15 months TIMIG and 84 months TIS.

d. SZ to Staff Sergeant: Waved to 8 months TIMIG and 48 months TIS.

NCOs have a responsibility to provide career counseling for soldiers in their charge and however commanders are also responsible for counseling with regard to promotions. Paragraph 3-10 states that "Soldiers in the zone of consideration but not recommended for promotion MUST be counseled by their immediate commander."

NCO promotions

Paragraph 3-31 covers the promotion criteria for NCOS in the ranks of Sergeant First Class, Master Sergeant and Sergeant Major.

Soldiers serving on Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) status follow different criteria than their TPU counterparts.

For instance, paragraph 4-6, Advancement to Sergeant (Page 57):

a. Normal advancement to Sergeant: 8 months TIMIG and 24 months TIS

b. Accelerated advancement to Sergeant: Waved to 4 months TIMIG and 12 months TIS.

Paragraph 4-7 (Page 58 3.d.1.3) states "Conditional promotion to Sergeant requires prior approval of Commander, Army Reserve-Personnel Command (AR-PERSCOM)."

Promotion to Staff Sergeant, Sergeant First Class, Master Sergeant and Sergeant Major is covered in paragraph 4-9:

Since January 1979 the AGRs have been promoted by a centralized promotion board against existing or projected vacancies. Headquarters Department of The Army (HQDA) prescribes the eligibility and the board is convened by PERSCOM.

Soldiers in the zone of consideration will receive a letter from the commander of PERSCOM directing them to:

1. Provide a current photograph according to AR 640-30, paragraph 8, if needed.

2. Contact their FTSMD to review their personnel records and verify the information contained on DA Form 2-1 and DA Form 2A.

3. Write a letter to the president of the board, if desired.

If you are a member of the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), an Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) or Standby Reserve (Active List) soldier, your promotions are covered in Chapter 5:

I have provided you with the regulation and basic information about how much TIMIG and TIS is required for you or your soldiers to get promoted. I expect every NCO to counsel their subordinates on this subject and make sure they know the requirements for promotion to the next higher grade.

The next time I see you I may ask, "When are you eligible for promotion?"

Dual ceremonies kick off new

Photo by Steve Wideoff

(left) Company 1, 158th Aviation Regiment prepares to give visiting VIPs a ride in one of its four new UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters.

(right) U.S. Representative Jerry Lewis (R-40th District - Calif.) and Maj. Gen Robert G. Ostenberg, commanding general of the 63rd Regional Support Command, chat in front of a Black Hawk.

(below) Three crewmembers from D Company, 158th Aviation Regiment, stand beside one of the unit's new UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters. A roll-out ceremony was held Feb. 22, at the Southern California Logistics Airport in Victorville, Calif.

By Lt. Col. Randy Pullen and Maj. Jon Dahms

The Army Reserve unveiled its new medium-lift aviation capability with ceremonies on both sides of the United States recently.

On Feb. 15, a roll-out ceremony was held for Company A, 158th Aviation Regiment, and its four new UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport in Clearwater, Fla.

On Feb. 22, a second ceremony was held at the Southern California Logistics Airport in Victorville, Calif., for Company D, 158th Aviation Regiment, and its four new Black Hawks.

These eight helicopters and two companies re-introduce a medium-lift capability back into the Army Reserve after a decade's absence of this capability. That capability went away with the restructuring of the reserve components aviation assets in the early 1990s.It returned to the Army Reserve under the provisions of the Army's Aviation Transformation Plan and thanks to the Fiscal Year 2001 National Defense Authorization Act, which provided for the first eight Black Hawks to be bought. Each company will have eight aircraft when fully filled.

The helicopters are a key feature of the Army Reserve's transformation as it supports the larger Army Transformation. They allow the Army Reserve greater flexibility in its support of the Army's transition to a lighter, more agile and more responsive combat force.

Unit makeup

Each support aviation company will

era in Army Reserve aviation

Photo by Steve Widnoff

Photo by Steve Widnoff

consist of 35 soldiers and 20 civilians (pilots, crew chiefs, maintenance and administrative specialists) and eight helicopters. Both units will fall under the command and control of the 244th Aviation Brigade, which is headquartered at Fort Sheridan, Ill., and is the higher headquarters for all Army Reserve aviation assets. The 244th is commanded by Col. Matt Matia.

Company D in Victorville will use existing facilities at the Southern California Logistics Airport but Company A in Clearwater will be in temporary facilities adjacent to the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station, Clearwater, until a new $17.8 million Aviation Support Facility can be built at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport. This facility, to be completed by mid-2003, will consist of a state-of-the-art 29,500 square foot maintenance building and an 8,300 square foot training building.

Lt. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, Chief, Army Reserve, hosted the Clearwater event. Also speaking at the Clearwater ceremony were U.S. Representative C.W. Bill Young (R-10th District - Fla.), Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee; Commissioner Barbara Sheen Todd, Chairman of the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners; and Mr. Dean C. Borgman, President of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation.

Photo by Steve Wideoff

(left) Chief Warrant Officer 3 Mike Dessinger of A Company, 158th Aviation Regiment, gives a safety briefing to Congressman C.W. Bill Young and Young's wife, Beverly, prior to an orientation flight. Dessinger was co-pilot of the Black Hawk helicopter on this flight. The other crew members were pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Lanny Morrison and crew chief Staff Sgt. Raymond Toper.

(below) After the Clearwater ceremony, local citizens and soldiers of the new Army Reserve helicopter company mingle together as they check out one of the new Black Hawks.

The airport is located in Pinellas County, which is in Young's district. Young was a key backer of the legislation which resulted in acquiring these aircraft. The Black Hawk is built by Sikorsky.

In his remarks, Plewes said that the Army's transformation to fight the current global war on terrorism had not started on Sept. 11. It began two years earlier when leaders with the vision to see the sort of world situation now facing the United States started the Army down the path to meet the challenges of that world.

"One of those leaders, a man whose efforts are very much responsible for our being able to conduct this event today, is sitting right here, Congressman C.W. Bill Young," Plewes said. "Chairman Young, thank you for your leadership and your vision."

Following Plewes, Young said that he was committed to providing the military with what it and its men and women need in order to do their jobs.

"This is a symbol of that commitment," Young said.

He then called Capt. Jim Fitzgerald, the commander of Company A, forward and presented him with a flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol.

"This flag is for you to fly over the headquarters of your unit," Young said, "when you have a headquarters to fly it over."

Commissioner Todd of Pinellas County reminded the audience that the Army was no stranger to this airport. There had been an Army air field here during World War II and several Army Air Force units had trained here before deploying to combat service overseas.

Representing Sikorsky, Borgman said "It's a privilege to build the aircraft that is being rolled out here today, knowing that it will serve you and our country with distinction over the next several decades."

He went on to say, "Our involvement with you does not end when we hand over the keys to the aircraft. We want to be sure that these aircraft are ready to go to work when you need them."

"I'd also like to thank and commend General Plewes, whose vision and perseverance has succeeded in bringing medium-lift helicopter capability to the Army Reserve.

"Finally, I'd like to thank all the Reservists who are here today. You play an important – and often unappreciated – role in our nation's defense. It's an honor to supply you with these aircraft, and thank you for everything you do for our country."

At the end of the remarks, a camouflage net was dropped to reveal a Black Hawk helicopter with a fully equipped pilot standing beside it. The crowd rose to their feet, applauding.

Victorville Ceremony

In Victorville, Calif., an equally enthusiastic audience, which included Congressional representatives, local political and business leaders and interested citizens, cheered as one of the Black Hawks assigned to D Company, 158th Aviation Regiment, was unveiled in a second roll-out ceremony on Feb. 22.

Maj. Gen. Robert G. Ostenberg, Commanding General of the Army Reserve's 63rd Regional Support Command represented the Chief, Army Reserve, at the ceremony. U.S. Representative Jerry Lewis (R-40th District - Calif.),

Photo by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

(right) Congressman C.W. Bill Young, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee (right), shakes hands with Chief Warrant Officer 4 Lanny Morrison of Company A, 158th Aviation Regiment. Maj. Jean McGinnis of the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, was one of the project officers for the roll-out ceremony and Young's escort at the ceremony. Morrison piloted the Black Hawk that took Congressman Young and other local officials on an orientation flight over the St. Petersburg-Clearwater area.

Photo by Steve Waddell

Chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, and U.S. Representative Howard P. "Buck" McKeon (R-25th District - Calif.), both key supporters of the legislation approving the funding for this initiative, also attended the ceremony.

Thomas C. "Kit" McKeon, Director, Army Requirements, Government Business Development Department, represented Sikorsky Aircraft at the Victorville ceremony.

Lewis praised the military on its on-going transformation and commitment to national defense.

``We are living in a shrinking but increasingly dangerous world,'' Lewis said. ``That just shows how much more important the work they do is. If we believe peace and freedom are what America is about, we can only move forward if we have a strong national defense.''

The Army Reserve is leasing space at the former George Air Force Base, which has been converted to an air cargo and airplane maintenance facility now called the Southern California Logistics Airport. Like the airport in Florida, the California site has a history with the Army. Terry Caldwell, chairman of the Airport Authority, said the airport was originally established as an Army training facility in 1940 just before World War II.

``The Army is just coming back home,'' Caldwell said.

Company D, 158th Aviation Regiment, is commanded by Capt. Alan Hardin.

At each ceremony, the commanders and troops were reminded of the challenges they faced in building a new company from the ground up and that no matter how difficult that task was, it was also going to be a very exciting and rewarding experience for all involved.

Plewes also made a final comment to the citizens of St. Petersburg and Clearwater that was echoed by Ostenberg to the citizens of Victorville:

"The Army Reserve is going to be a good neighbor and a value-added member of this community and we are going to put this facility, this unit and these aircraft to good use for our Nation.

"You can count on that."

Lt. Col. Pullen and Maj. Dahms are with the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, Washington, D.C.

Photo by Steve Wideoff

(left) Chief Warrant Officer 3 Mike Dessinger of A Company, 158th Aviation Regiment, gives a safety briefing to Congressman C.W. Bill Young and Young's wife, Beverly, prior to an orientation flight. Dessinger was co-pilot of the Black Hawk helicopter on this flight. The other crew members were pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Lanny Morrison and crew chief Staff Sgt. Raymond Toper.

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(right) Congressman C.W. Bill Young, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee (right), shakes hands with Chief Warrant Officer 4 Lanny Morrison of Company A, 158th Aviation Regiment. Maj. Jean McGinnis of the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, was one of the project officers for the roll-out ceremony and Young's escort at the ceremony. Morrison piloted the Black Hawk that took Congressman Young and other local officials on an orientation flight over the St. Petersburg-Clearwater area.

Photo by Steve Wideoff

Chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, and U.S. Representative Howard P. "Buck" McKeon (R-25th District - Calif.), both key supporters of the legislation approving the funding for this initiative, also attended the ceremony.

Thomas C. "Kit" McKeon, Director, Army Requirements, Government Business Development Department, represented Sikorsky Aircraft at the Victorville ceremony.

Lewis praised the military on its on-going transformation and commitment to national defense.

``We are living in a shrinking but increasingly dangerous world,'' Lewis said. ``That just shows how much more important the work they do is. If we believe peace and freedom are what America is about, we can only move forward if we have a strong national defense.''

The Army Reserve is leasing space at the former George Air Force Base, which has been converted to an air cargo and airplane maintenance facility now called the Southern California Logistics Airport. Like the airport in Florida, the California site has a history with the Army. Terry Caldwell, chairman of the Airport Authority, said the airport was originally established as an Army training facility in 1940 just before World War II.

``The Army is just coming back home,'' Caldwell said.

Company D, 158th Aviation Regiment, is commanded by Capt. Alan Hardin.

At each ceremony, the commanders and troops were reminded of the challenges they faced in building a new company from the ground up and that no matter how difficult that task was, it was also going to be a very exciting and rewarding experience for all involved.

Plewes also made a final comment to the citizens of St. Petersburg and Clearwater that was echoed by Ostenberg to the citizens of Victorville:

"The Army Reserve is going to be a good neighbor and a value-added member of this community and we are going to put this facility, this unit and these aircraft to good use for our Nation.

"You can count on that."

Lt. Col. Pullen and Maj. Dahms are with the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, Washington, D.C.

Army Reserve Heroes

Photos courtesy of Capt. Adrian Shanahan

Army Reserve Capt. Adrian Shanahan speaks with a New York National Guardsman at Ground Zero.

By Staff Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.–From the ashes and smoke of the September 11th terrorist attack on the United States arose many heroes and a new way of living for many of its citizens. Two of these heroes were Army Reservists who had no idea how a trip to Manhattan, N.Y., to help a fellow soldier would change their lives forever.

On September 10th, Rick Pace, acting information management officer for the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) and Army Reserve Sergeant Major for the Deputy Chief of Staff Logistics office, flew to New York to be admitted into Beth Israel Medical Center, which is about four miles from where the World Trade Towers stood, to have a serious surgical procedure performed on his throat. Having no idea of what would occur on September 11th, Pace arranged to have his family fly to New York on September 12th to be with him; then it happened.

I was watching the morning news and I got a call from my Sunday school teacher in Pelham, Ala., and we were talking about how I was doing and I saw the first tower flash report come up on the news, and at first I didn't know what I was watching," Pace said. "Then quickly I realized it was an attack on the trade center and I was shocked that it was happening. Then a little later I saw tower two get hit and I was just astonished."

Pace, being only four miles away from the World Trade Centers, was now deeply concerned for his safety and the

safety of his family if they came to be with him. After talking to his wife, Glenda, and realizing how much she wanted to be there to support him, he overlooked his fears and they started to talk about ways she could get to New York.

"After talking to some of my co-workers at the 81st, I knew something was being worked on late Wednesday afternoon to get my wife and daughter to New York, but I didn't know all the details until late that night," Pace said. "I found out that Captain Shanahan and Chaplain Winter had volunteered to drive them down."

Good friend

"Wednesday after work I received a call from my boss to see if I would volunteer to drive Mrs. Pace to New York to be with her husband because they couldn't fly due to the airports being closed after the terrorist attack. Well, Mr. Pace is a good friend and because I'm always looking to help him out I didn't even hesitate. I said yes I would do it," said Capt. Adrian Shanahan, operation staff officer for the 81st RSC Deputy Chief of Staff Engineer section.

Chaplain (Maj.) Glenn Winter, chaplain executive officer for 110th Chaplain Detachment located in Birmingham, said once he heard of the situation he didn't think twice about helping either.

"I found out about Sgt. Maj. Pace's situation from Chaplain Nelson (81st RSC Chaplain) around 16:30 on Wednesday and he also told me about Glenda having a hard time getting a rental car to travel to New York to see Sgt. Maj. Pace. I told him earlier that day that if he needed me for anything he could give me a call. As soon as I received his call explaining the situation I didn't hesitate to help," Winter said.

After Winter rendezvoused with Shanahan, Glenda, and Pace's daughter Nashley in Birmingham they departed on their journey to New York. The trip took them about 15 hours, but for them the reason for the trip outweighed the distance.

"Once we reached Mr. Pace, who was staying in an apartment across from the hospital, we spent a little time with him. That Thursday night, Chaplain Winter and myself were adamant about getting down to the disaster area to help out in some way. So that is what we did. We changed out of our traveling clothes and into our BDUs and we walked for about four to five miles passing through check point after check point because the security in the area was very tight, but we were able to get into Ground Zero," Shanahan said.

With help of their Battle Dress Uniforms (BDU) and military identification they were able to get pass the guard posts and into Ground Zero.

"Once we got in we started talking to some of the firemen in the area and one of the first things they told us was that if we hear three blasts of a horn to start running for your life. The reason they said that was because we were standing near the Millennium Hotel and another federal building that had been destabilized by the towers collapsing," Shanahan said.

Ground Zero

Winter added that once they were inside of Ground Zero he received the opportunity to visit and pray with some of the rescue workers, but it didn't last very long. From out of the smoke and darkness arose a sound that caught the attention of everyone on site.

"Well after finding out about the three horn blast warning, sure enough, a little later we heard the three horn blast. We were standing right there, 30 yards from the shadow of this 54 story Millennium Hilton. We all took off and started running as far away as we could get and just waited to see what was going to happen. Thankfully the building didn't fall," Shanahan said.

"Amazingly, as soon as we got the all clear all the volunteers went right back to work — working in the shadow of this building that was just about to fall on them. That was the spirit of all the workers out there. They were not going to stop for anything," Shanahan said. "The spirit of everyone there was just powerful because they were all volunteers wanting to help anyway they could. There were New York police and fire fighters there, union guys, brick workers and soldiers."

Shanahan added that there were some civilians who were trying to get in, but many of them were turned back-because of fear that some of them might be trying to get in to loot some of the stores that were damaged.

After returning to Ground Zero, Shanahan and Winter were approached by a man wearing a white firemen's hat. He turned out to be a New York Fire Department (FDNY) Fire Chief.

"The fire chief came up to me and said, 'Sir, I need your help,' and he pointed behind me. There was a building sort of above us, but behind us a little bit, and there was a large mass of steel I-beams dangling off to the side and he said they were afraid those beams would come loose and fall and kill people. Because of that they wanted the whole street where we were standing secured until the beams could be removed," Shanahan said. "He asked me if I could take on that mission. I told him I would, and with the help of the Chaplain we got everyone to move back about two hundred yards. This wasn't easy because everyone was still in shock and wanted to do something to help, so there was an eagerness of the heart that you had to overcome."

Shanahan said while they were waiting to get back into Ground Zero they began to come up with a plan for the heavy equipment that would have to be used. "We began to

start coordinating our actions for when we got the all clear. I told the guy with the light sets that he could get set up on the corner on the right side shining his light right to left; The men with the bulldozers to have their bulldozers going down the middle of the street; and the bucket loaders to pick up here and feed off to the left filling up the dump trucks. So we were coordinating all this stuff and it was really great. The Chaplain and myself were in the right place at the right time to help out as much as we could," Shanahan said.

"It felt great to be able to help out. We were tired from driving all night, but we didn't mind. The size of the devastation was unbelievable. I still can't believe it. It's still shocking. The first half hour I was there I felt a sense of fear. They were talking about buildings falling and there was so much chaos and so much going on it was a little overwhelming to the senses. After about an half an hour I started to calm down and when we got the mission to secure the street it really helped me to get my mind off things."

Chaplain Glenn Winter (left) and Capt. Adrian Shanahan (right) stand on the steps of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

Rest for the weary

After helping out at the site until midnight, Shanahan and Winter left to get some food and rest. The next day they spent time with Pace and his family.

"We prayed with the Pace family before Sgt. Maj. Pace's surgery. We stayed by his family's side to make sure they had everything they needed. I also stayed with Sgt. Maj. Pace that night because his wife and daughter were not allowed to stay in the hospital room because it was a male's room and there was another male patient in there with Sgt. Maj. Pace," Winter said.

The next day Shanahan and Winter went to the New York City National Guard Armory, where many of the family members of the missing were gathering. Shanahan said there were hundreds of pictures of people missing in the tragedy plastered on the walls of the armory.

"Being raised in Long Island, N.Y., I felt lucky and honored to be there to help. Because I lived in the area I was also afraid that some of my friends might have been hurt or killed in the towers. It was just an overwhelming since of sadness because of the national tragedy and all these innocent people that were missing. If there was anything we could do to help we were going to make it our duty to do it," Shanahan said. Reflecting back on seeing Ground Zero for the first time Shanahan said, "The thing I remember is seeing layer after layer of ash, notes, computer paper, memos, pictures and personal items all over the place. It was a shocking site. I have never seen anything like it. I thought, well if I ever saw anything that would be tough to look at during my military career it would be on foreign soil, not sixty miles from where I grew up."

Ministering to victims

Winter said he was fortunate enough to be able to minister to a number of the families at the armory that had a family member missing in the attack. He was also able to minister to some of the New York National Guardsmen helping out at Ground Zero.

"There will definitely be a continuing need for ministry to several thousand family members of the missing and dead from the World Trade Centers over the coming weeks. Army Chaplains can help meet this need, in a civilian capacity, if they have the right credentials," Winter said.

After making sure the Pace family had a way to get back home, Shanahan and Winter retuned back to Birmingham, but they continued to stay in contact with Pace and his family.

"I think what these soldiers did was exceptional. They had choices to do many other things besides going down to Ground Zero while they were in New York, but that is what they chose to do. If I was able to go with them I would have, but my illness caused me to be unable to do anything extremely physical," Pace said. "I really do consider them to be heroes. I can't thank them enough for what they did for my family and me and I'm sure the families of the missing in New York feel the same. I pray God blesses them and their families for not only being outstanding soldiers, but great Americans."

Shanahan and Winter were presented the Meritorious Service Medal from Maj. Gen. James W. Darden, former commander of the 87th Division, Birmingham, Ala., for their meritorious service and support of the Pace family and the city officials of New York City.

Staff Sgt. Witherspoon is with the 81st Regional Support Command, Public Affairs Office.

Soldier works hard to ensure soldiers, civilians safety

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.–Following Sept. 11th, many Americans changed the way they lived their lives, and a sense of heightened alert became a part of their daily routine. Now with the presence of Anthrax being detected in post offices in the United States, many postal workers are putting their lives on the line to provide mail to their fellow citizens.

One 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) mail clerk is doing the same everyday, but she said the job must get done.

Sgt. Tamika Lowe, a mail center supervisor for the Headquarters, 81st RSC, in Birmingham, said being a mail clerk at this time in the world has its disadvantages, but someone has to do it.

"It's not a job many people want to do right now, but it's a job that has to be done. Personally I'm a little scare to do it right now, but someone has to do it," Lowe said. "It's scary to think that it's a possibility that someone might send us something unsafe. A lot of people ask me, 'Aren't you scared to open those packages.' Yes! I'm scared, but the job still has to be done."

Sgt. Tamika Lowe, a mail room clerk with the Headquarters, 81st Regional Support Command, wears a face mask and gloves as she inspects packages at a nearby warehouse before delivering them to the mail room.

Lowe said there are certain procedures the mail clerks in her office follow every day to insure their safety and the safety of their coworkers.

"We take the packages out to the warehouse first before bringing them into the mail room as a precaution. We started doing this after the Anthrax scare surfaced," Lowe said. "We open boxes and bulky letters out in the warehouse. As a precaution we wear protective masks and gloves. These are the precautions we are taking to ensure we don't get contaminated in case we do happen to find a package containing something unusual."

Lowe said some of the things they inspect the packages for are, "Misspellings on packages, bulky or soiled packages and misspelled words and names, but the biggest thing we look at is the return address, because most of our mail comes from our units. So, if the return address is one that we don't recognize, or it's missing, we call our supervisor and the provost marshal to take a look at it, and from there we deal with it accordingly."

"Ever since Sept. 11th, performing my job has become a little more difficult, but this is what I do. This is my job," Lowe said, as she gazed around the mail room.

Lowe said through all that has occurred with the attack and the Anthrax scare, she would never think of giving up her job as a mail clerk.

"There has never been a time that I have thought about getting out of the Army or changing my job because of the terrorist attack or Anthrax scare. I have been in the Army for seven years now and this is all I really know. It's not a problem for me because I love it," Lowe said. "I'm really putting everyone's safety before mine because I'm the one opening the packages first, but all the precautions we take are for the safety of the personnel that work in the building here at the 81st RSC, and I want to make sure they are all safe."

Lowe said fear is still present in her life, but she knows she must continue to do what she has to do for her 5-year-old daughter, coworkers and for herself.

"I'm still a little afraid. I'm even a little afraid to check my own mail at home, but all you can do is be careful and take precautions. Through all of this we must find a way to continue on with our lives, and I plan on doing just that," Lowe concluded.

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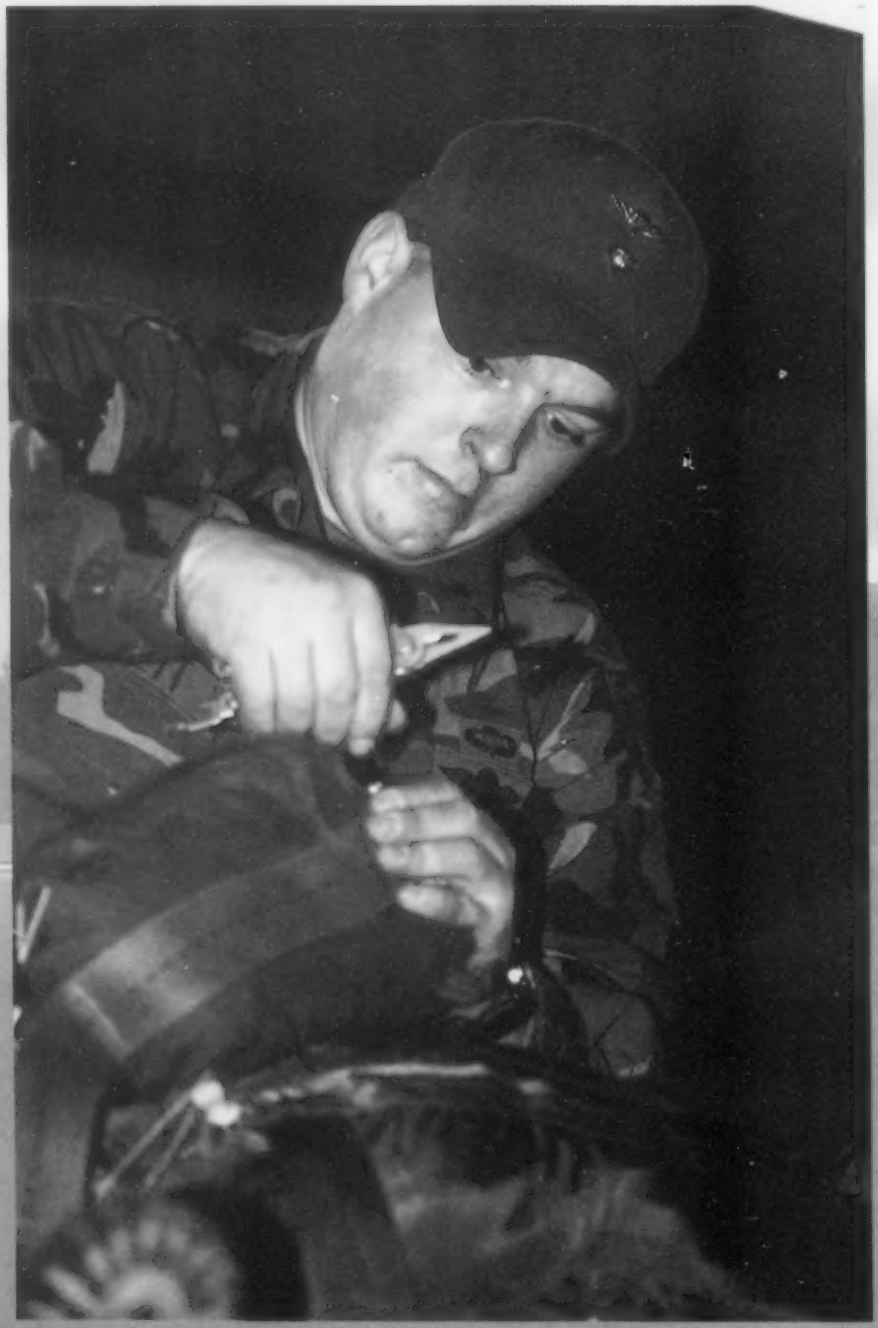
America At War



Spc. Brian Puckett, a rigger with the 421st Quartermaster Company from Fort Valley, GA puts the finishing touches on a G-12 cargo parachute used to drop humanitarian aid in Afghanistan. Army personnel in Germany are processing and preparing humanitarian aid drops destined for Afghanistan. They drop everything from wheat and MREs to blankets.

Army Reserve rigger unit helps with Afghan airlift

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Greg Jones

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany—Citizen-soldiers from the 421st Quartermaster (QM) Company have helped drop 2 million meals to starving Afghans.

The rigger unit from Fort Valley, Ga., was activated Oct. 31 to help "Task Force Firepower" prepare humanitarian aid supplies for airlift to Afghanistan.

"I was sitting down watching the football game on Sunday when the phone rings and they said pack your bags and get ready, we've got a mission for you," said Master Sgt. Thomas Gilbert of the 421st QM Company.

Shortly afterward, the 421st soldiers deployed to Germany and joined a composite task force made up of German Army soldiers and U.S. soldiers from the 21st Theater Support Command (TSC).

Task Force Firepower was organized specifically for the mission of requisitioning, packing and preparing humanitarian aid supplies for airlift to Afghanistan, 21st TSC officials said. They said Army reservists from the 421st make up almost 25 percent of the 400-person task force.

In the past, the 421st helped with humanitarian airdrops in Bosnia. The 421st is one of only two rigger units in the Army Reserve, and the other supports the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C.

As well as working with active-duty soldiers, the 421st has worked alongside soldiers from the German Army's Parachute and Rigger School and two German regional commands.

"There's really been nothing to do to integrate the reserve soldiers," said Lt. Col. Richard Mason, Task Force Firepower's commander. "They came ready to work and less than 48 hours after arriving on the ground they were up and running."

Reservists from the 421st have been filling boxes, building crates, and packing chutes. The unit packs between 100,000 and 200,000 pounds of humanitarian aid supplies daily. What they are packing consists of rations, wheat, blankets, and cold weather clothing. The supplies are packed into large crates, each of which will contain either humanitarian rations, bags of wheat wrapped in blankets, or cold weather clothing packed in duffel bags. The crates are fitted with parachutes and dropped from airplanes into Afghanistan.

It is in the parachute packing part of the process where the 421st comes in. As a rigger company it is their job to prepare the crates for parachute drops. They fold and pack parachutes and attach them to the crates, which they help construct. The work they do is very demanding and leaves no room for error, officials said.

"You have to be very careful with everything in rigging," said Spc Eric Wilson, a 421st rigger. "If you just attach one string wrong or fold something wrong it can stop the parachute from working right. You really don't want that to happen."

In, fact, the riggers are so exacting and careful with their work, they actually put their own name, rank, and unit on each parachute they pack, which gives them even further incentive to make sure they do it exactly right.

"If you know your actual name is going on something you do, you're definitely going to do the best job you can," said 421st rigger Spc. James Hagans.

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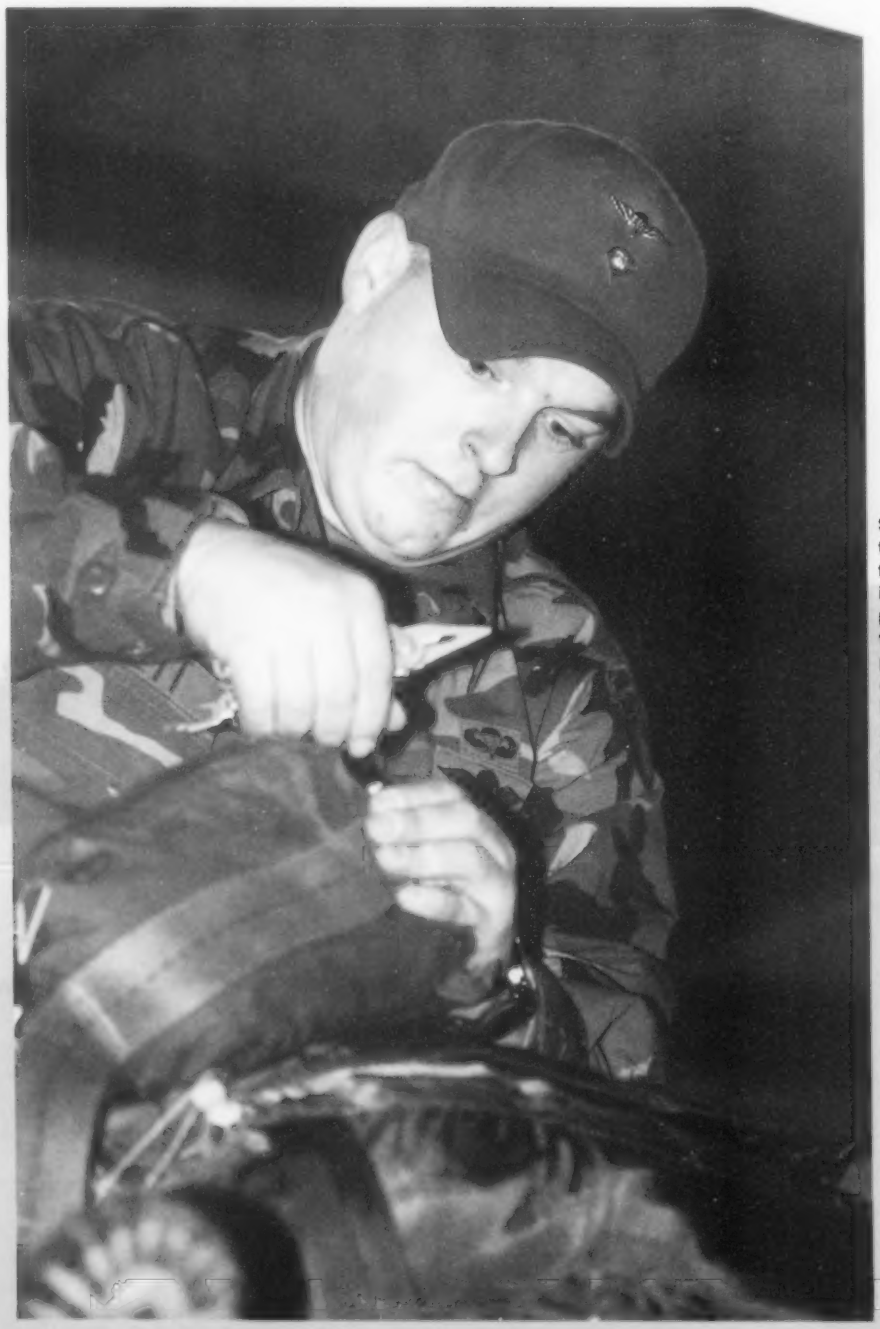
America At War



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Army Reserve Center dedicated to African

Story and photo by Lt. Col. Burt Masters

"For extraordinary heroism on April 7, 1945, near Lippoldsberg, Germany. As lead scout during a maneuver, Pvt. 1st Class James was the first to draw enemy fire. He was pinned down for over an hour, during which time he observed enemy positions in detail. Returning to his platoon, he assisted in working out a new plan of maneuver. He then led a squad in the assault, accurately designating targets as he advanced, until he was killed by enemy machine gun fire while going to the aid of his fatally wounded platoon leader."
Pvt. 1st Class Willy F. James, Jr.
Medal of Honor Citation

BAMBERG, Germany—A 7th U.S. Army Reserve Command (ARCOM) Reserve Center was dedicated on Bamberg's Warner Barracks (Building 7081) on November 4, 2001 in honor of World War II Medal of Honor recipient, Pvt. 1st Class Willy F. James, Jr. James was posthumously awarded the nation's highest honor by President Bill Clinton in 1997. He was among a group of only seven African American World War II heroes to receive the award after an extensive Army review of war records.

The Bamberg-based Reservists chose to dedicate their Center in James' honor, as he epitomized the values of duty, personal courage, and self-sacrifice on behalf of his fellow soldiers, and his nation. The Center is home to three of the 7th ARCOM's 22 units – the 301st Rear Operations Center; 345th Rear Area Operations Center; 1172nd Movement Control Team; and their servicing Regional Support Detachment.

A native of Kansas City, Mo., James enlisted in the U.S. Army on Sept. 11, 1942. He was assigned to Company G, 413th Infantry Regiment, 104th Infantry Division - "The Timberwolves"- as an Infantry scout. Near Lippoldsberg, Germany, his unit was establishing a vital bridgehead over the Weser River, when James displayed exceptional heroism, above and beyond the call of duty, resulting in the award of the Medal of Honor.

"PFC James was a citizen-soldier in every sense of the word, who served in the greatest Army of citizen-soldiers the United States had yet assembled in war. In these unprecedented times, when our nation is once again at war, and our freedom is threatened, that we draw strength and inspiration from the heroic actions of great soldiers like James on the battlefields of Europe over five decades ago," stated Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth O. Preston, V Corps' senior enlisted leader, the dedication's keynote speaker.

Preston joined with Brig. Gen. Paul D. Patrick, the ARCOM's commander, and other participants in unveiling

Brig. Gen. Paul D. Patrick presents 1st Sergeant Gary D. Dewitt, representing the Bamber Center's enlisted soldiers, with a proclamation from the State of Missouri in honor of James.

American Medal of Honor recipient

)above) Brig. Gen. Paul D. Patrick talks with James' family representatives, Mrs. Margaret Pender, and Mr. Johnny Pender, Jr. after unveiling a bronze plaque in James' honor. Looking on is Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth O. Preston, V Corps' Command Sergeant Major, who served as the dedication speaker. (right) Following the dedication, Mrs. Margaret Pender and Mr. Johnny Pender, Jr., visited James' gravesite at Margraten American Military Cemetery in The Netherlands. A local Dutch family, the Heuts-De Munter's, have adopted the grave and and routinely place floral arrangements there.

a bronze plaque in honor of James; a photo portrait of his gravesite in the American Military Cemetery in Margraten, The Netherlands; and the presentation of a proclamation from the State of Missouri in his honor. Participating in the ceremony were Mr. Johnny Pender, Jr., and Mrs. Margaret Pender, representing James' widow, Mrs. Valcenie James; World War II veterans of the 104th Infantry Div. Association, Brig. Gen. John W. Gillette and Mr. Glen Lytle; and Command Sgt. Maj. Mark R. Wilsdon, from the USAR's 104th Institutional Training Div. – the successor organization to the 104th Inf. Div. Representing the Center's enlisted soldiers was 1st Sgt. Gary D. Dewitt.

The James Center is the third Army Reserve facility to be dedicated by the 7th ARCOM in Germany. It represents the model for Reserve unit consolidation in Europe by the command. The initiative is designed to consolidate units for improved efficiencies in operations near their supported parent active Army organizations of U.S. Army, Europe, in end-state communities consistent with U.S. Army Europe's long range stationing plans. Other Reserve Centers in Germany are the Brig. Gen. Richard J. Dirgins Center in Schwetzingen (7th ARCOM Headquarters), and the Maj. Gen. James Earl Rudder Center in Kaiserslautern.

Note: The 7th ARCOM expresses deep appreciation for the exceptional support by the State of Missouri, 104th Div. Veteran's Association and 104th (IT) Div., the James' family representatives, U.S. Army V Corps, 98th Area Support Group (279th Base Support Bn.), 1st Infantry Div. Band, and Margraten American Cemetery, in enabling this dedication event. Lt. Col. Masters is the 7th Army Reserve Command Public Affairs Officer, Sweitzingen, Germany.

ADSW assignments available

Army Reservists who are looking for a way to serve on Active Duty on a short term basis are encouraged to consider Active Duty for Special Work (ADSW) assignments.

Barb Hansen of the Fort McCoy Directorate of Training and Mobilization (DTM) Training Division said the installation has approximately 40 openings, mostly for enlisted personnel. These positions run in the April to September time frame to support the installation's peak training season and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Positions are available at the DTM in Range Operations, the Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport, Training Division, and the Plans Division, at the Directorate of Support Services at Installation Related Construction troop projects and Plans and Operations, and at the Chaplain's Office, the Reserve Component Pay Support Office, Army Community Service and the Troop Medical Clinic.

"Everyone who applies for these positions must have a suitable MOS (military occupational specialty) or comparable experience in the civilian sector," Hansen said. "This is not an on-the-job training opportunity."

"Fort McCoy benefits because it brings experienced and skilled personnel to support the installation's peak training time. Individuals benefit by honing their skills and gaining more experience, as well as earning retirement benefits," she added.

Interested personnel can find out more about the ADSW openings and how to apply at the Fort McCoy web site **http://www.mccoy.army.mil/garrison/DTM/train/adsw-tours.asp**.

The positions are funded by the U.S. Army Reserve Command. Applicants can be Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) or Troop Program Unit (TPU) personnel from the Army Reserve.

Hansen said applicants also can find instructions and links to all forms required to complete the application process at the Web site.

Billeting is available at Fort McCoy for those personnel who are not from the local area. The tours are unaccompanied. Anyone with questions can contact Barb Hansen at (608) 388-4689.

DPW offers new course

By Maj. Mark Wright

The U.S. Army Facility Engineer Group (FEG) is offering a three-day course on Director of Public Works (DPW) operations in Huntsville Alabama. The training is a continuation of efforts to improve the DPW skills of FEG soldiers and other senior engineer leadership personnel, and addresses many Mission Essential Tasks required for successful execution of our mobilization mission.

Our goal is to improve deployment capabilities of the FEG by teaching doctrinal principles and sharing the experiences gleaned from after actions reports and from direct discussions from previous deployments of FEG and non-FEG engineer personnel.

According to Lt. Col. Andrew Stewart, the Course administrator, "We are trying to create a DPW basic course, or DPW 101, to familiarize students with what it takes to function as a DPW if deployed. We are giving them "the basics. Our intent is not to make these soldiers DPWs, but to make them aware of where to go to find the answers."

Day one of the course covers general DPW subjects such as contracting, real property master planning and environmental compliance. Students are broken down into smaller teams and given two separate scenario driven practical exercises based on historical, real world operations. They are confronted with real time problems and are required to brief the Task Force Commander on engineer operations as part of graduation from the course.

On day two, FEG teams that have recently returned from deployments to Bosnia and Kosovo provide information briefings on their respective theaters. These comprehensive briefings covered the entire deployment sequence including preparation for deployment, movement from their home station, and finally theater specific situations and missions. Students also received a briefing from the Forces Command Engineer's office on cur-

rent real world situations followed by a panel discussion during which students are allowed to ask questions to the teams on any subject.

Day three provides the teams a chance to display the knowledge they gained when they brief the outcomes of their practical exercises.

At the completion of the course, students receive a course certificate, and a CD with references, Army Regulations, Training Manuals, Photos, and briefing slides.

The next course is tentatively scheduled for July 31 and the deadline to apply is July 1. Units outside the FEG are encouraged to attend. For course or application information, please contact Lt. Col. Andrew Stewart at (757) 727-3143 or DSN 680-3143, email andrew.o.stewart@us.army.mil; or Maj. Mark Wright at (703) 693-2532 or DSN 223-2532, email mark.wright@us.army.mil. More information can be found on our website at http://tradoc.monroe.army.mil/dcsbos/reservist/index.

Maj. Wright is the Information Management Officer for the U.S. Army Facility Engineer Group, Mobilization Planning Support Cell.

Ground broken for Armed Forces Reserve Center

Photo by Sgt. Ward Gros

Brig. Gen. William S. Crupe (far right) leads a group of dignitaries in groundbreaking activities as a joint service color guard of the Army, Navy and Marine Reserves looks on.

By Spc. Christopher Florence

ORLANDO, Fla.—The 143rd Transportation Command, under the command of Brig. Gen William Crupe, will get a new home in the future. The ground was broken Jan. 12, 2002 for the construction of a new Armed Forces Reserve Center – a center which will combine the functions of the Army, Navy, and Marine Reserve Command units.

The new three-story 121,116 square feet facility will house 16 Army units, 17 Navy units and 3 Marine units. The L-shaped building will contain an assembly hall and auditorium at the intersection of the two wings. The two-story west wing will house the Navy, and the three-story south wing will house the Army Reserve and Marines, physical training and lockers, classrooms and building support functions.

Crupe, who will be the ranking officer in the new reserve center, said sharing the facility with the other components will take some getting use to, but "it will provide some great training opportunities.

"Military strategy and tactics reflect that we will fight join and combined," Crupe said. "This new Armed Forces Reserve Center will enhance our collective ability to carry out these efforts. One only has to see on television and read in newspapers and magazines that this is truly the way the United States and its allies are waging war in Afghanistan and the surrounding region."

The 16-million dollar facility is expected to be completed by June 2003. Army Reserve unitds to be housed in the new facility include:

* 143rd Transportation Command
* 841st Combat Engineering Battalion, C Company
* 196th Transportation Company
* 146th Transportation Detachment (Air Terminal Movement)
* 912th Adjutant General Company (Direct Support Postal)
* 195th Transportation Detachment
* 76th Transportation Detachment
* 839th Transportation Detachment
* 1159th Transportation Detachment
* 508th Transportation Detachment (Movement Control)
* 520th Transportation Detachment (Movement Control)
* 536th Detachment (Movement Control) Company B
* 345th Military Intelligence Battalion
* 154th Judge Advocate Team
* 174th Legal Support Office (Legal Services)
* 174th Legal Support Office (Military Judge).

Army Surgeon General visits Mayo Clinic, helps build Reserve partnerships

Story and photo by Bill Geddes

ROCHESTER, Minn.—Army Surgeon General Lt. Gen. James B. Peake returned to the roots of the Army Reserve medical community recently, in an effort to help build partnerships for the future.

Peake visited the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, as a part of a luncheon presentation of Army Reserve opportunities by Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Recruiting. During the visit Peake recognized contributions by the Mayo to the Army Reserve's past.

"The Medical Reserve Corps was started because of the need for health care," Peake said. "That was what ultimately evolved to become the U.S. Army Reserve. That sense of service is a part of the history of the Mayo Clinic. The founding brothers both served in WWI as special consultants (both brothers reached the rank of brigadier general). The Mayo clinic itself fielded special units to go to not just WWI but WWII as well. There is a rich heritage of service. That is one of the things that has helped make this place the great institution that it is."

Dr. Paul Julesrud, Mayo clinic and a captain in the Naval Reserve, demonstrates an advanced imaging device that helps diagnose congenital heart disease to Lt. Gen. James B. Peake, Army surgeon general.

Reaching out to that rich heritage of service is what drew AMEDD Recruiting and Peake to Mayo. "What they have to offer us," said Peake, "is the quality people who are doing their medical skills day in and day out, that are available to serve their country across the spectrum of operations that we, as a superpower, are required to do."

To help attract those quality people, and to highlight what the Army Reserve has to offer the Mayo clinic, AMEDD Recruiting worked with Army Reservists from the 88th Regional Support Command (RSC) to develop interactive displays highlighting medical opportunities within the Reserve system.

"The Reserves are more extensive than I thought they would be," said Theresa Loessin, a registered nurse in the Uro/Gynecology department at the Mayo Clinic. "They cover a lot more than I thought. You watch "MASH" and they cover the surgical end, but (the Reserve) do a lot more."

Kondra Jones, a first year medical student at the Mayo Medical School agreed, saying she enjoyed learning about the flexibility the Army offers with both Reserve and active duty opportunities.

"That flexibility shows that you can have a family and do civilian medicine and still be there to serve the country and tend to medical needs of those men and women who are fighting for our country," Jones said.

Flexibility was another part of Peake's visit. The opportunity to talk to hospital administrators about the challenges inherent to having Reservists working for the hospital, as well as to Reservists about the challenges their Reserve duty brings to their civilian jobs, helps the Army to be more responsive to the needs of both.

He noted that the need for flexibility was apparent after the Gulf War. Some doctors lost their practice because of time away during the war, and some hospitals were left short-staffed. The Army has already started to respond to the problem.

"What we've tried to do is keep the deployments to a shorter time frame," said Peake. The physicians in Kosovo today are on 90-day rotations, Peake added, unless they opt out or are in command positions.

"The proof will be in the pudding," Peake said, "but so far at least it seems to be a doable thing. They are having

a great experience and have a chance to bond with the unit, but are still able to maintain their practice and their skill sets, and therefore, their professional satisfaction."

Peake also pointed out that not all deployments are for 90 days. "Many of the (Reservists) here are gone for two weeks at a time to places like Costa Rica, Guatemala or Nicaragua, helping people," he said. "They see in that time four or five thousand people who otherwise wouldn't have access to any medical care. They come back rewarded and refreshed, they've seen different things, and they're better in their own work environment because of it."

The humanitarian nature of those missions appealed to those attending the symposium, according to Dr. (Lt. Col.) Walter Franz, a consultant in the department of family medicine for the Mayo Clinic, and one of the planners of the event. "The people you talk to, both professionals in and outside of the Reserve, they want to have a feeling that what we do has a humanitarian nature," he said. "They understand the reality that we have to maintain the health of a fighting force, but in times like we're in now, where we're mainly looking at peacekeeping, the humanitarian type of mission has some dividends. People like to see it, it's a good feeling on both sides."

Jones agreed. "For me, the most effective part of the presentation was the humanitarian mission aspect. The financial aspect was also very beneficial; I'd heard about your full tuition and all fees being covered, plus a stipend, which is excellent in medical school because Med students always need money. I really liked the humanitarian missions though."

Good news for Franz. "What I'm hoping is that we would be able to serve as an ongoing reservoir, and benevolent force of providing health professionals at all levels to the Army's mission," Franz said. "I'm hoping that since we're the largest group practicing medicine in the United States, and have a large number of people in practice, that there's strength in numbers, and that we can develop some good partnerships with some very benevolent outcomes.

Mr. Geddes is a Public Affairs Specialist with the 88th Regional Support Command Public Affairs Office, Fort Snelling, Minn.

Full time Recruiters and Retention-Transition NCOs sought

In an effort to attract quality non-commissioned officers to serve as full time Active Guard and Reserve Recruiters and Retention-Transition NCOs, the Army Reserve has begun to conduct Career Forums at locations across the United States.

These forums serve to educate and inform reservists about the program and to centralize the selection, record screening, application preparation, interviewing, medical screening, and hiring of potential Army Reserve Recruiter and Retention-Transition NCOs.

Hiring Recruiters and Retention-Transition NCOs is currently the number one priority for the Active Guard and Reserve Program. There will be twenty career forums conducted in major metropolitan areas throughout the United States during the remainder of the year.

Soldiers selected through this program can be brought on an Army Reserve AGR tour of duty in as little as 60 days.

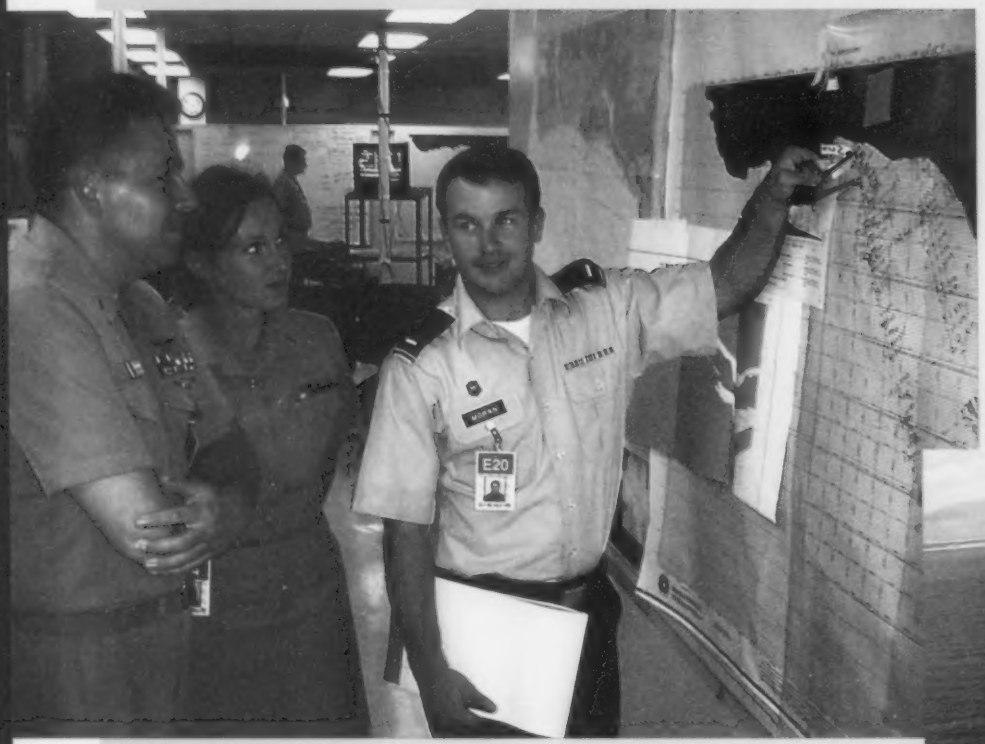
For more information, contact the Office of the Chief Army Reserve Retention and Transition Division. The program manager is Maj. Curtis Both and Master Sgt. Merrel Gage at (877) 718-5686 or by email at USAR.Retention@usarc-emh2.army.mil or USAR.Recruiter@usarc-emh2.army.mil.

Career Forums

Date	Location	Contact
May 3-5	Chicago, IL	88th RSC, MSG Raines at (612) 713-3684
May 17-19	Harrisburgh, PA	99th RSC, SFC Gorzynski at (412) 604-8284
Jun 7-9	Detroit, MI	88th RSC, MSG Raines at (612) 713-3684
Jun 21-23	Boston, MA	94th RSC, SFC Brooks at (978)796-2500
Jun 21-23	Charleston, WV	99th RSC, SFC Gorzynski at (412) 604-8284
Jul 12-14	Minneapolis, MN	88th RSC, MSG Raines at (612) 713-3684
Aug 2-4	Columbus, OH	88th RSC, MSG Raines at (612) 713-3684
TBD	Nashville, TN	81st RSC, MSG Duncan at (205) 795-1720
TBD	Memphis, TN	81st RSC, MSG Duncan at (205) 795-1720
TBD	Houston, TX	90th RSC, SFC Bass at (501) 771-7837

Tragedy at sea

Reservist uses military skills to help heal wound



Army Reserve engineer, 1st Lt. John Moran points out the location of the Ehime Maru to Lt. j.g. Anne Cossitt, a public affairs officer, and Lt. j.g. Ken Ingram, a weather watch officer. The Ehime Maru is the Japanese fisheries training vessel that sank off the coast of Oahu after being struck by a U.S. submarine.

The Rockwater 2 along with diesel recovery vessels performs the relocation maneuvers.

By Master Sgt. David C. Cooper

HONOLULU—When a Japanese fisheries training vessel sank nine miles south of Oahu after being struck by a U.S. submarine, our nation committed to a mammoth $60M recovery operation to retrieve the remains of the nine students, crew members and teachers who were lost.

On February 9, 2001, the Ehime Maru, an 830-ton ship used to train high school students who plan to enter the fishing industry, was struck by the USS Greeneville, a Los Angeles-class attack submarine, as it was conducting a simulated emergency ascent. Although 26 people were rescued, some went down with the ship as it plummeted more than 2000 feet to the ocean floor, a depth far beyond the reach of conventional divers and equipment.

The incident served to heighten tensions between the U.S. and Japan (compounding military issues in Okinawa) and place the Navy on an international stage as it investigated alternative approaches for dealing with the emotionally charged situation.

In order for the recovery effort to proceed, the ship had to be moved from the site of the wreck, which was two-fifths of a mile underwater, to the shallows one mile off the Honolulu International Airport's reef runway, outside of Pearl Harbor. Hauling the broken vessel up from that depth and easing it eight miles closer to shore was a potential environmental nightmare.

Army Reserve engineer, 1st Lieutenant John Moran, with the Facility Engineer Group of the 416th Engineer Command (ENCOM), provided the expertise to help the Navy move the ship to the recovery site without damaging Honolulu's delicate and beautiful coast.

Moran became involved in the recovery effort through his civilian employer, Teledyne Solutions, Inc. in Huntsville, Ala., two months following the incident. But

for the actual recovery operation, he donned his Army uniform.

The plan was to raise the nearly 200-foot long vessel that was lying nearly upright on its keel. It would need to be raised just enough to clear the ocean floor in order to tow it underwater for 14.6 nautical miles.

Moran's first job was to ensure that the U.S. could deliver on the Navy's commitments to protect operational safety and the natural environment. After that, his task was to determine the optimal day and time to carry out the operation to minimize the risk of environmental damage from the remaining marine diesel fuel on board the sunken vessel.

When he set to work developing the operation's scaled shelf profile, he discovered that the ocean floor rose more gradually than was originally thought, and by charting the appropriate course, the operation could proceed more efficiently and have the greatest chance of success.

"Keeping all the agencies happy was a huge task in itself," he said.

Over the course of his effort, he coordinated with nine federal agencies including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and with nine State elements that included the Governor's Office and the State health and environmental agencies. His coordination also included the Consulate General of Japan.

Photos by William Walker of Crowley Marine, Inc.

After working on the Environmental Assessment (EA) as a DOD contractor, he prepared a list of mitigations, which were essentially methods to prevent or respond to environmental hazards. The Environmental Assessment became the guidebook for the operation.

An environmental assessment of this magnitude and complexity historically has taken 9 months to prepare. In order to meet the project's optimal weather window, the analysis was required to be accomplished in 10 weeks. Any schedule delays in the EA's preparation would have forced the mission into an unacceptable delay of one year. At stake was a commitment made to the Government of Japan by a Vice Admiral of the Navy and the U.S. Ambassador to raise the vessel in a timely manner.

During the relocation operation, the private company responsible for lifting the ship used air hoses on its remotely-controlled deep-sea vehicles to cut channels beneath the Ehime Maru's damaged hull so that steel cables could be fed beneath the keel to help drag two giant straps around the vessel.

"A ship this large has never been recovered at such a depth," said Moran. "This was a precedent-setting operation."

While the remotely-operated vehicles of the Rockwater 2 salvage vessel created the giant cradle, the Army Reserve engineer completed the analysis which would determine when the lift would begin, taking into account the direction of the wind, the ocean current and the time of day. Over the course of the relocation operation, the lieutenant performed some of the mitigations himself and monitored the efforts of other participants. He also provided the Public Affairs Office with detailed graphics and data for their use in informing the media of the recovery progress.

Once secured, the Rockwater2 lifted the Ehime Maru about 10 meters above the ocean floor. The trick was to keep the vessel close to the surface so that if either support strap broke, the falling ship would return to the bottom without risking damage to its towing vessel.

As the Rockwater 2 towed the damaged vessel, minor amounts of diesel were released, but these were identified and contained. Moran's analysis was particularly useful when the Rockwater 2 approached the Shallow-water Recovery Site (SWRS) where the Ehime Maru was to be placed temporarily for recovery operations. The vessels would have arrived late at night, which was not the optimal time and his analysis showed that the optimal time was 16 hours later, in the afternoon.

It turned out that the decision to wait was an important one because overnight the broken vessel released a plume of diesel 2 miles by 3 miles wide.

"The fact that the Ehime Maru was in deeper water and further off shore ensured the sheen did not threatened the shoreline," he reported.

It took more than two months for 66 U.S. and 30 Japanese divers to complete the dangerous and tedious task of recovering remains, which involved removing mud, fishing nets and other objects. Eight of the nine missing were found, as well as 1,500 to 2,000 personal effects and mementos.

"This operation was a state-of-the-art engineering feat that advanced the Navy's understanding and capability for future recovery missions," said Moran as he, along with the Facility Engineer Group finished their task of helping America make good on its promise to bring solace to a bereaved ally and put this sad chapter in Naval annuals behind us.

Note: Following the recovery efforts, the Ehime Maru was towed back out to sea and given a permanent burial.

Master Sgt. Cooper is with the Facility Engineer Group, Darien, Ill.

Changing perceptions

Bosslift gives supervisors insight on

Story and photos by Mr. Bill Geddes

The days of Reservists heading out to drill with Weber grills and coolers packed with beer and steaks for a weekend of glorified camping are gone. Perceptions created in those days are harder to change.

"I thought Fort McCoy was just a couple of barracks, and (Reservists) came out, and they didn't do a whole hell of a lot, kinda like going off to college for the weekend," said Rick Chernick, owner of Camera Corner, while on a 395th Ordnance Company-organized Bosslift.

The Bosslift, set up with the help of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), was a step towards changing those perceptions. Bosses from the Appleton, Wis., area were flown in to Fort McCoy, Wis., where they observed the 395th's weapons qualification exercise, ate Meals Ready To Eat (MRE) with the soldiers, and saw the 120th Field Artillery fire their howitzers.

"The basic concept is to show appreciation to these bosses that are letting these Reservists do this stuff, sometimes at a moments notice," said Capt. Mike Vaessen, former commander of the 395th Ord. Co., and the planner of the Bosslift. "Some (Reservists) come up to them a day before and say, 'I need Friday off because I have reserve duty at Fort McCoy.' Ninety-nine percent of them let the soldier do that. They understand (the soldiers) have a duty and they're not going to interfere with that."

Beyond that, the Bosslift also gave the soldiers a chance to do some showing off. "When Capt. Vaessen came up

Rick Chernick and Jeffrey Russoldt watch as Sgt. Brad Nickel explains how an M-203 grenade launcher works.

Reserve soldiers

with this, it was not to impress the bosses just for the sake of impressing the bosses, it was to show them what this unit is capable of doing," said Capt. Rick Badger, commander of the 395th Ord. Co. "There is an intense measure of pride in the 395th to show we're true professionals."

Vaessen agreed, adding that the soldiers appreciated the opportunity to show their bosses what they were capable of. "It gives the soldiers a chance to say, 'Hey, I may be a forklift operator five or six days out of the week at work, but when I'm in Reserveland, I'm an NCO in charge of a section of 15 soldiers. During this drill, I'm running the .50 cal. Range, and I'm ready for bigger things at work.'"

The bosses of the 395th soldiers were wowed by what they saw. "I'm very impressed by this," said Chernick, who has Capt. Mike Seering working for him. "I had no idea that this is what really went on; I had no idea it was this big. More people should get firsthand experience of this to see what's really going on. This is serious stuff — I've got a much better appreciation for what's going on."

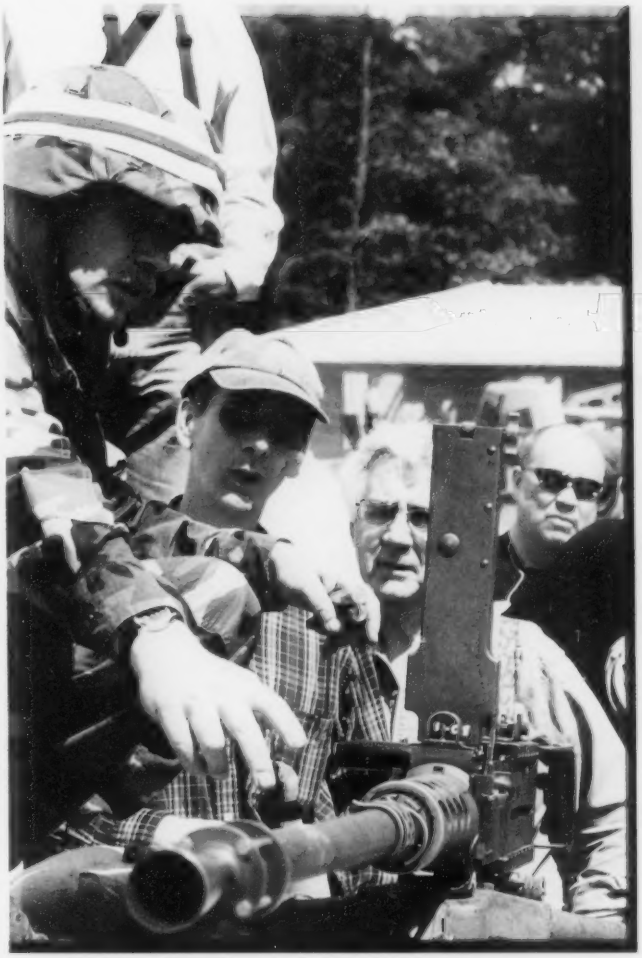
Mary Ellen DeByle, Library Media Services Department Chair for the Manitowac public school system, agreed, adding that while Sgt. 1st Class Connie Specht never told her much about what she did while on Reserve duty while working for her in the offset printing office, it was never a problem letting her go. "I really understand, since Desert Storm, the importance of the reserves," DeByle said. "(Specht) is very good at training the replacements that cover for her while she's gone, and knows she has to follow up when she gets back."

The fact that it was a joint exercise, allowed the bosses to see a broader spectrum of the Reserve Vaessen said. Vaessen contacted the ESGR, the ESGR set up the C130 flights with the 440th Air Wing, an Air Force Reserve unit out of Milwaukee.

"The pilots always need stick time," said Vaessen. "You throw that in with an actual real mission, where they have to hit times and locations, and it works out great for everyone involved."

He then coordinated the rest of the operation with Fort McCoy's range control, which allowed him to shuttle the bosses from range to range. Watching the 120th Field Artillery, a Wisconsin National Guard Unit, coordinate fire with F16s dropping ordnance rounded out the military experience for the bosses, impressing everyone who took part.

"This is the largest, best organized Bosslift operation I've seen," said Brig. Gen. Michael Jelinsky, deputy commanding general for the 88th Regional Support Command, who had the opportunity to drop in on the Bosslift. "What the 395th Ordnance Company has done is fabulous."



Staff Sgt. Roy Strutz explains to bosses the difference between the effective and maximum range of an M-250 caliber machine gun.

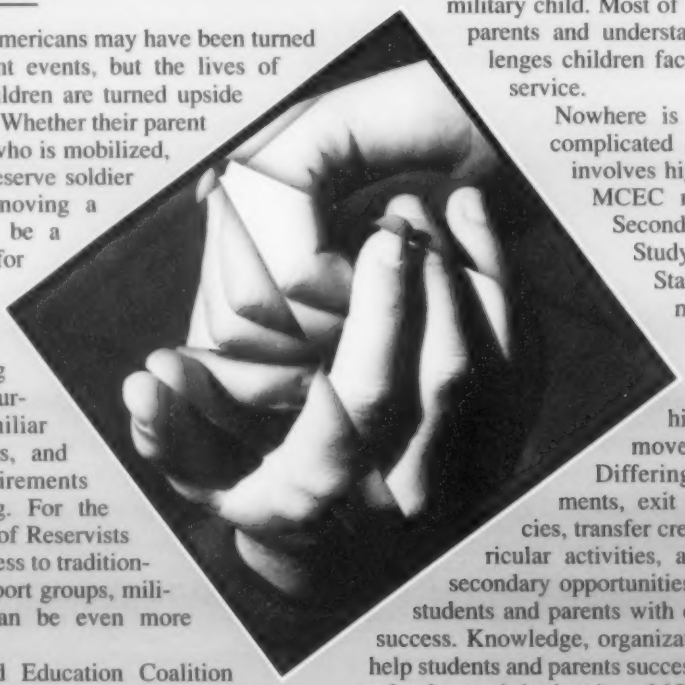
Mr. Geddes is a Public Affairs Specialist with the 88th Regional Support Command Public Affairs Office, Fort Snelling, Minn.

A Helping "hand"

Making transitions for the military child less difficult

By Lt. Col. Pamela Keeton

The lives of many Americans may have been turned upside down by recent events, but the lives of America's military children are turned upside down quite frequently. Whether their parent is an Army Reservist who is mobilized, or an Active Guard/Reserve soldier who is reassigned, moving a school-age child can be a troubling experience for the youngster.



New homes, saying good-bye to old friends and making new ones, unfamiliar surroundings, unfamiliar schools, new teachers, and new academic requirements can be overwhelming. For the children and families of Reservists who may not have access to traditional military family support groups, military-related moves can be even more challenging.

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) is dedicated to making school transitions a little easier for all of the children of our nation's armed forces. MCEC serves as an advocate for all military students in public, private, host nation, and home schools around the world. Through professional development for school staff and faculty, informational materials for parents and students, and close working relationships with policy makers at all levels, MCEC is helping parents chart an easier course for their child's education, schools adopt "military child friendly" policies, and installations improve the quality of life for students and families.

What began in 1995 as a vision by a handful of people in Central Texas, MCEC has quickly grown to a non-profit (501(C3)) organization—classified by the Internal Revenue Code as a tax-exempt charity— with more than 500 members, including installations throughout the world.

MCEC's membership includes individuals, installations, schools, colleges and universities, corporations and other non-profit organizations, all of whom share its vision of easing educational challenges facing the military child. Most of its members are military parents and understand first hand the challenges children face as a result of military service.

Nowhere is school transition more complicated or critical than when it involves high school-aged children. MCEC recently completed the Secondary Education Transition Study (SETS) for the United States Army and found that more than 800,000 school aged military-connected children will move at least once during high school, and many will move multiple times. Differing graduation requirements, exit tests, course equivalencies, transfer credits, sports and extracurricular activities, and preparation for post secondary opportunities can present unprepared students and parents with overwhelming hurdles to success. Knowledge, organization, and persistence can help students and parents successfully transition between schools—and that's where MCEC, through its web site www.MilitaryChild.org, provides resources directly to parents, educators, and military organizations.

Adopting "user-friendly" administrative procedures and "transition-friendly" rules and regulations can help schools ease the burden of transfers. For example, the daughter of an Army officer stationed at Fort Hood, TX, moved each year during her high school career, ultimately attending three high schools in three states over four years. At each school, she was required to take that state's exit or graduation exam and she missed some preferred classes because of pre-registration procedures that allowed existing students to fill classes in the spring before military students arrived over the summer. Additionally, she faced having to carve out positions on sports teams that were organized in the spring of the previous year, often settling for a lesser position. Even elementary-aged children find that transitioning to new schools require them to face academic as well as social and emotional transition challenges, putting them in the tough position of trying to catch up as well as "fit in" with their resident peers.

MCEC is working with many communities to adjust certain school policies by encouraging states to accept exit test scores from other states, holding spots in desirable classes for children who arrive during the summer break, and holding positions on teams and in organizations until the new school year begins. These students aren't looking for an advantage over other students, they are simply hoping for an even playing field.

Additionally, MCEC has unique and growing experience in facilitating agreements among interested parties that address the transition issues facing the mobile, military child. One exciting example is the growing momentum of the SETS Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between school systems. This is an outgrowth of the significant research that MCEC conducted for the U.S. Army—the Secondary Education Transition Study (SETS). Currently, more than fifty school systems are signatories to the MOA.

The bottom line is that military children deserve the same opportunities for success as their non-military related peers, and MCEC is working very hard toward that end. For more information, check out MCEC's Web site at www.MilitaryChild.org, or call (254) 953-1923 for more information.

Lt. Col. Keeton is an Individual Mobilization Augmentee who was assigned to the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief of the Army Reserve at the time this article was written. She also volunteers time with MCEC.

Tips to smooth educational transition

* As soon as you find out you're moving, notify your child's current school and request that they begin to make preparations for the transfer of his/her files. Request unofficial copies of student transcripts and copies of course descriptions to aid the new school in the selection of proper classes. Parents who maintain educational portfolios for their children that contain old report cards, contact information, and course descriptions have a much easier time when registering at new schools.
* Call ahead to your new school to request an information packet, or use the Internet to find out as much as possible about the new school. This is especially important for high school students as many high schools are switching to different types of schedules such as year round or block scheduling. If your child needs special classes, it's critical to inquire about placement as early as possible so that he/she does not miss critical services.
* When you leave your old school make sure that you have contact names and phone numbers, especially a fax number, as well as the email address.
* When you arrive at your new school, ensure that you have necessary official documents and records such as shot records, your child's social security card and his/her birth certificate. Without these vital documents, your child's enrollment could be delayed.

If you want a free copy of the MCEC's SETS publication The Parent Guidebook contact: mfrcrequest@calib.com.

Carrying on the tradition:
Army Reservists on Capitol Hill

"Many of the emerging democracies in Eastern Europe do not have experience with a force of citizen-soldiers imbued with the belief that the democratically elected civilian leadership is in charge of the armed forces. There are no better teachers of this tradition than our reserves and National Guard."

Retired Gen. George A. Joulwan
Former Supreme Allied Commander Europe
May 28, 2001

By Lt. Col. Randy Pullen and Capt. Rebecca Leggieri

Leadership of the Army by freely elected civilian officials is one of the oldest and most fundamental principles of the United States.

Equally as old is the tradition of service in the Army by those with the power "to raise and support Armies."

Long before the Constitution gave Congress this power, it had already raised an Army. Its members were serving in it, too. George Washington was a member of the Second Continental Congress when he was chosen as the Army's commander-in-chief in June 1775. Several signers of the Declaration of Independence served as soldiers in the Revolution. Most saw combat against the British, some were wounded in action and others became POWs — which, considering the act of "treason" they had committed by signing the Declaration, must have made for tense periods of captivity.

After the Revolution, Members of Congress continued to serve as either part-time soldier in their respective state militias or on active duty during time of war.

Birth of the Army Reserve

With the creation of the Army Reserve in 1908, there was another option for service as citizen-soldiers. Harry S Truman and Henry Cabot Lodge served simultaneously as Organized Reserve officers and as Senators, from Missouri and Massachusetts, respectively.

Truman, unsuccessful in his attempt to be recalled to active duty during World War II, had to settle for becoming Vice President and then President of the United States instead. The Secretary of War ordered Lodge, who had served under Gen. George S. Patton in the Army's pre-war maneuvers and saw action with the British Army in North Africa, back to Congress. When his request to return to duty was refused, Lodge became the first Senator to resign in order to go to war since the Civil War.

Another World War II veteran is Strom Thurmond, Senator from South Carolina since 1954. An Army Reserve officer from 1924 to 1960, he was a leader in the fight that defeated Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara's attempted merger of the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard in the late 1960s.

Members of Congress with Army Reserve service in their blood continue to fight for the Army Reserve. The

Photos by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) congratulates the parents of newly promoted Capt. Dave Whitney, at Whitney's promotion ceremony held in the Capitol. Whitney is chief counsel for the senior senator from North Carolina, as well as being an Army Reserve Judge Advocate General Corps officer.

Photos by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

Maj. Sue Riopel, a former Army Reserve Congressional Fellow for Congressman Charles Taylor (11th District, N.C.) served as an escort officer for Senator Dan Inouye (D-Hawaii) in June 2000 and was on hand to see him receive the Medal of Honor from President Clinton at the White House. Inouye received the medal for his World War II valor as a member of the famed 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team.

battle over the merger took more than two years to resolve; the battle to get a third star for the Chief, Army Reserve and the other reserve component chiefs took more than a decade.

Leading that fight was Senator Jeff Sessions of Alabama, who had served as a company grade officer in the Army Reserve's 1184th Transportation Terminal Unit, Mobile, Ala., in the 1970s and 1980s. He called his service in the Army Reserve "one of the most rewarding chapters in my life."

Elected to the Senate in 1996, Sessions quickly gained a reputation as a committed advocate for the men and women of the nation's reserve forces. He was a prime sponsor of the legislation introduced in 1999 to upgrade the chiefs of the reserve components to three-star rank.

"This is the right thing to do and we are going to make it happen," Sessions said in 2000. "It's important because it recognizes the state of the American Armed Forces today and especially the part played by the Reserve Components."

Victory

Sessions continued the fight and saw victory achieved with the passage of the 2001 National Defense Authorization Act, which directed that the reserve chiefs be promoted. Those promotions took place in mid 2001.

Army Reservists serve in both houses of Congress. The Hoosier State and the Prairie State each have a serving Army Reserve field grade officer Congressman.

Lt. Col. Steve Buyer represents Indiana's Fifth District while Lt. Col. John Shimkus represents the 20th District of Illinois.

Buyer, Co-Chairman of the House Reserve Components Caucus, is a Gulf War veteran. Like some 84,000 of his fellow Army Reservists, Capt. Buyer left family, home and job when called up in 1990. He provided legal advice to forward-deployed combat service support units in Saudi Arabia, to the commander of the 22nd Support Command and to the Western Enemy Prisoner of War Camp.

Photos by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

(above) U.S. Delegate for American Samoa, Eni F.H. Faleomavaega, a retired Army Reserve officer, shakes hands with Maj. Gen Craig Bambrough, Deputy Commanding General of U.S. Army Reserve Command (right) P. Pasha Baker, Army Reserve Ambassador for Hawaii and Brig. Gen Robert Lee, Commanding General of the 9th Regional Support Command (left), look on. (right) Senator Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.) gives a warm handshake to his Army Reserve commander, Lt. Col. Armand DeKeyser, at DeKeyser's retirement ceremony in June 2000. Sessions and DeKeyser had served together as company grade officers in the 1184th Transportation Terminal Unit, Mobile, Ala. They still serve together – DeKeyser is chief of staff to the junior senator from Alabama.

These and the other elected officials who serve or who have served in the Army Reserve join others with Army Reserve backgrounds who work on Capitol Hill. These are the Congressional Staff Members.

Capt. Armand DeKeyser served alongside Capt. Jeff Sessions for eight years in the 1184th. He deployed with it to Kuwait during the Persian Gulf War. When Lt. Col. DeKeyser retired after a 28-year career in June 2000, his Army Reserve comrade, now the junior Senator from Alabama, hosted his retirement ceremony on Capitol Hill. In his civilian career, DeKeyser is Sessions' chief of staff.

Army Reserve Capt. Dave Whitney is chief counsel for Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina. Army Reserve service is a family affair for Whitney. His father is a former Army Reserve sergeant, his uncle was an Army Reserve colonel, and his cousin is an Army Reserve major.

Besides the part-time Reservist staffers, there are also full-time Reservist staffers. These Active Guard Reserve (AGR) officers are Congressional Fellows. This valuable program allows Fellows to learn first-hand how America's laws are made, while simultaneously allowing Members of Congress and their staffs to use the Fellows' knowledge of the Army as they work to make those laws.

Mutual benefits

The program's mutual benefits are shown in the example of Maj. John Leggieri when he was an Army Reserve Fellow in the office of Congressman John E. Sweeney (22nd District, New York). Among Sweeney's top priorities are veteran's issues. Local veterans had voiced concerns by phone and mail to his office about military honors rendered at funerals, especially with the growing number of veterans' deaths and a reduced active duty force. Other legislation addressed this concern but did not protect Reservists who volunteered for this duty.

Sweeney decided to use the reserve component expertise on his staff and handed Leggieri the task of coordinating the behind the scenes work of shepherding a bill through House passage to the Senate. This bill became The Honor Guard for Veterans Empowerment Act and, as a component of a larger Senate bill, was signed into law by President Clinton on November 2, 2000.

"It was a great experience for me." said Leggieri. "I had the unique opportunity of learning the entire process of how a concern of district residents enters the legislative cycle and remarkably, becomes law. The process was long, difficult and involved, but at the end of the day it all came down to one thing – helping people, not only in this one district but also throughout America.

"My former Army Reserve assignments in New York state, Nebraska and Arkansas," Leggieri added, "allowed me to explain to members of the Veterans' Affairs Committee how America's veterans not living near an active military post, would miss out on military honors due them for serving our nation without the help of Reservists."

Other Army Reserve officers who have been or are Congressional Fellows include Lt. Col. Timon Oujiri (Representative Todd Tiahrt, 4th District, Kansas), Lt. Col.

Photo by Paul Adams

(above) Congressman Steve Buyer (5th District, Ind.) points out Senator Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), (shaking hands with then Maj. Gen Thomas Plewes, Chief, Army Reserve) during a ceremony held at the U.S. Capitol to mark the 92nd anniversary of the Army Reserve in 2000. Thurmond is an Army Reserve World War II combat veteran and retired major general. Buyer is an Army Reserve lieutenant colonel and veteran of the Persian Gulf War. (top right) Senator Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.) talks about driving with two Reservists from the 375th Transportation Group, Mobile, Ala. Sessions is a former Army Reserve Transportation Corps officer who served in both the 375th and the 1184th Transportation Terminal Unit. (right) Senator Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) congratulates newly promoted Lt. Col. Wanda Good, as her husband Jim (right), and Senator James Inhofe (R-Okla.) look on. Good served as an Army Reserve Congressional Fellow on Inhofe's staff in 1995. After her Fellowship, she became the first Active Guard Reserve (AGR) officer assigned to the Senate Liaison Division of the Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison, Headquarters, Department of the Army. Good legislative liaison officer with the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve.

Danelle Scotka (Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, Texas), Lt. Col. Wanda Good (Senator James Inhofe, Oklahoma), Lt. Col. Paulette Mittelstedt (Senator Max Cleland, Georgia), Maj. Sue Riopel (Representative Charles Taylor, 11th District, North Carolina), Maj. Marianne Burtnett (Senator Patty Murray, Washington), and Maj. Desiree Wineland (Senator Bill Nelson, Florida).

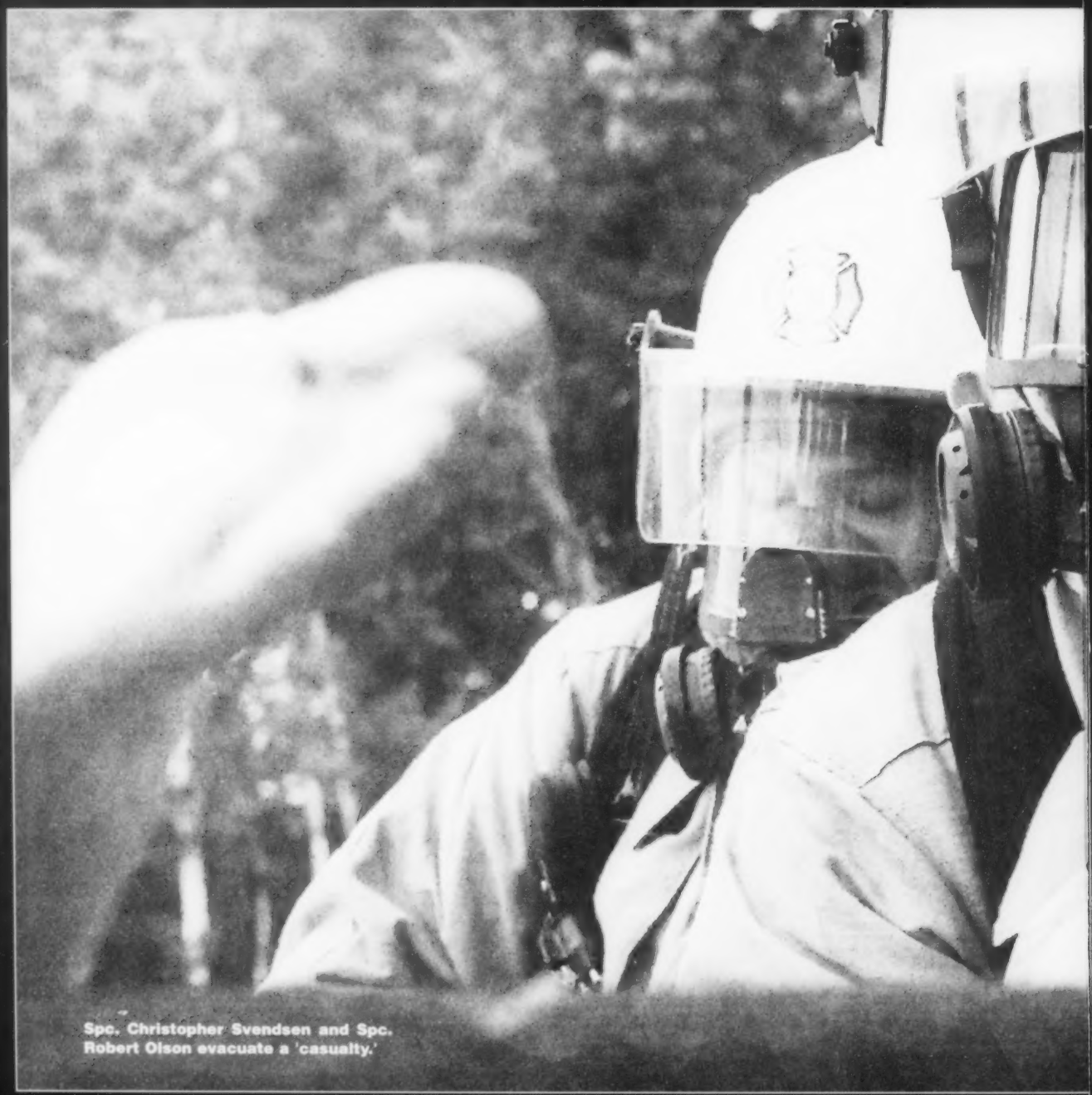
Oujiri and Good inaugurated the Army Reserve Congressional Fellowship Program in 1995. Following her fellowship, Good became the first AGR officer assigned to the Senate Liaison Division, Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison, as well as the first woman officially assigned as a liaison officer to the U.S. Senate.

The Army Reserve's connection with the Congress is a long and honorable one, steeped in the American tradition of service in the armed forces by those who govern the Nation. Those who have been or continue to be Army Reserve citizen-soldiers take pride in their service and in being one of those who, as Winston Churchill once said, are "twice the citizen."

Lt. Col. Pullen and Capt. Leggieri are with the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve.

Putting out f

Story and photos by Spec. Christopher Rowe



Spc. Christopher Svendsen and Spc. Robert Olson evacuate a 'casualty.'

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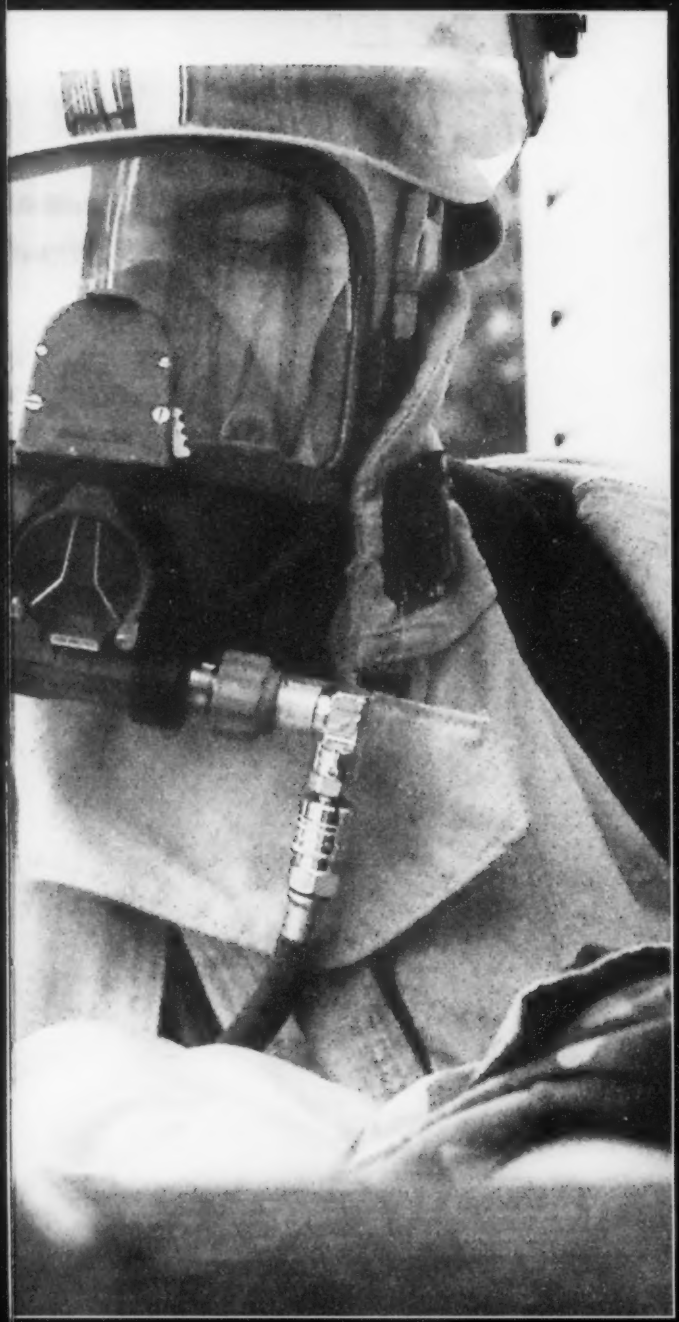
Soldiers from the 336th Engineer Detachment (Firefighting) advance an attack hose .



Fear is not part of the program.

Inside a secluded airplane hanger, a group of soldiers waits patiently. Two compete in a game of chess, as onlookers enjoy lighthearted conversations. Others kick back on cots and read, while outside a football is tossed in a friendly game of catch. All seems to be at peace.

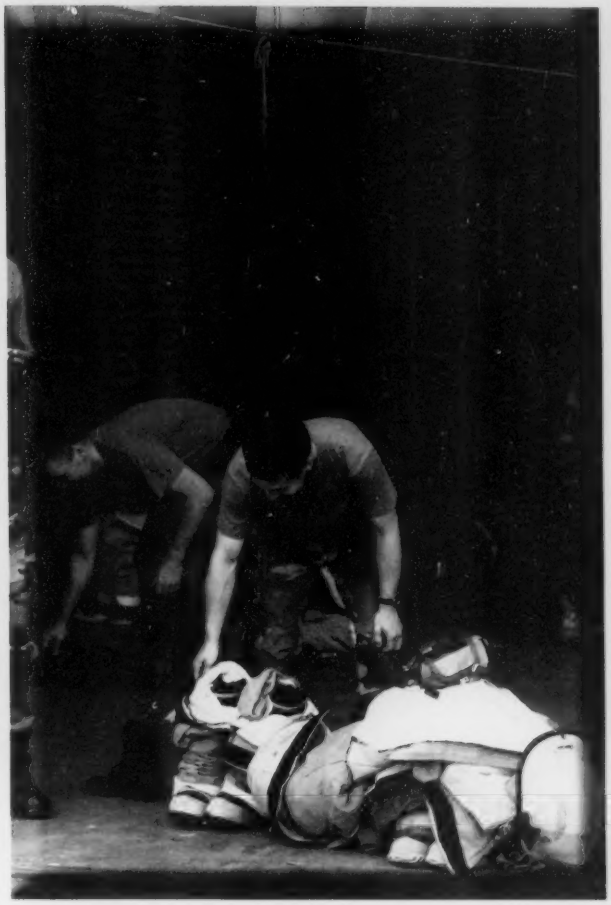
(above) Spc. Robert Olson extinguishes the last flames of a smoldering fire on the last routine check through a burning building. (middle) Spc. Dale Moss couples two hoses. (right) Sgt. Michael Lohr, and Spc. William Vanaxen get ready for a rescue response.

With one ring of the telephone, this easy-going atmosphere snaps into an intense, well-rehearsed routine of men grabbing gear and rushing to a fire truck in a matter of seconds.

As part of its two-week annual training, the 336th Engineer Detachment (Firefighting) was on call for 96 hours during LANES training exercises here. The combination of all units in the 336th is rare and was taken full advantage of when units from Sturtevant, Wis., and Duluth, Minn., merged into one.

Fear does not seem to be a part of the 336th's program. Most of the soldiers view the dangers of their job in terms of "calculated risk taking." Fighting fire is intense work, and this intensity seems to have an addictive quality.

"Moral is high," said 1st Lt. Noel N. Lee, the 336th unit commander. "That's one of the reasons why a lot of them have joined the unit, because they want to be firefighters. They really



enjoy what they do. It's challenging."

"We have a really good bunch of people here, everybody's close, we know how dangerous this job is," said Sgt. Michael K. Lohr, a firefighter with the unit. "Something goes wrong while we're out, we'll take care of each other. We're all tight. You gotta be a tight group. If you're not a tight group, then someone can get hurt."

Deployed to Bosnia in 1998, the 336th is a unit that knows the dangers of deployment and the importance of real-life training.

The focus of the unit's recent annual training was structural firefighting. Structural firefighting involves responding to a variety of burning building situations. One of the mock burn sites used in training the firefighters was a three-story building that could be repeatedly set on fire. A room on the first floor of the building is lined with ceramic tiles. These tiles restrict most of the heat and flames of fires set in the room. The smoke from these fires fills the entire building.

Firefighters arriving on the scene have to evaluate the situation and immediately decide how to approach the fire. Visibility is near zero as firefighters enter many of the burning buildings. A search for the flames and victims soon takes place as different teams enter the building.

The teams have to put out the fire as quickly as possible and evacuate any people that may be trapped in the building. There are several different fire situations the unit must prepare for, including knowing how to handle being the first responders in many cases.

They have to remember how they were trained to assess the situation, how to attack the fire, how to deploy the people and how to deploy equipment.

"It's not just putting out the fire, it's ventilation, it's overhaul, its rescuing people, it's giving first aid, it's searching and rescuing — there's a lot of things involved," said Lee, "We have to respond to all sorts of emergencies. It's not just structure but aircraft, vehicle, (and other) incidents, and we have to be trained on medical skills and tasks because we're usually the first people on the scene."

Much of the 336th is composed of full-time and volunteer firefighters. There are many differences between firefighting in the civilian world and being firefighters in the Army Reserve. First and foremost, the people in the 336th are soldiers. The unit is always responsible for conducting military-related tasks, even when responding to calls. Along with honing their firefighting skills, the unit has worked on conducting a convoy, troop leading procedures, water tanker resupply operations, and operating basic security at the fire scene and the Fire Command Center.

The soldiers of the 336th have a unique and challenging job in the Army Reserve. These particular individuals work well under pressure and feed off the "rush" of the fire. With the intensity in which this unit trains, there's no call this unit can't handle.

Spc. Rowe is with the 364th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Fort Snelling, Minn.

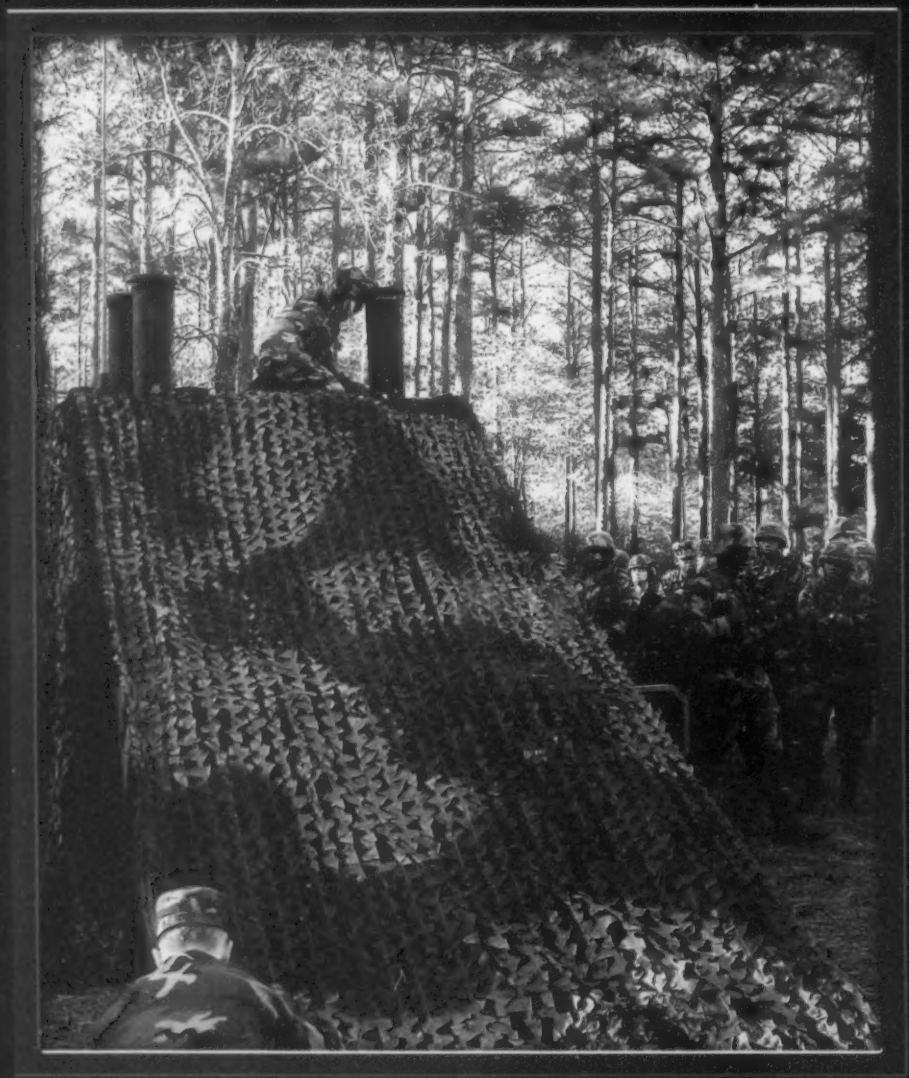
100th Division (IT) BIDS Det. completes another class

(above)The BIDS Unit is housed on the back of the standard US Army Humvee.

(left) Staff Sgt. Greg Terry instructs that proper grounding is mandatory for safe generator operation.

Story and photos by Maj. Jerry Traylor

The 100th Division (Institutional Training) is the Army's leader in training soldiers in the use of the Biological Integrated Detection System (BIDS). There are only two units in the Army equipped with the BIDS – the 7th Chemical Company, and the 310th Chemical Company – both Army Reserve units.



(above) Staff Sgt. Greg Terry instructs that proper grounding is mandatory for safe generator operation.

The BIDS Detachment, 4th Battalion (Chemical), 3rd Brigade, 100th Division (IT) at Fort McClellan, Ala., performs the qualification training for BIDS operators. The 25 day school teaches soldiers in Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 54B and officers in MOS 74A who are assigned to BIDS units or supporting units.

"The only instructors in the world are right here," said BIDS Senior Instructor and NCOIC Master Sgt. Karen Kirkpatrick.

As the number of countries pursuing an offensive biological warfare program continues to increase, the priority of the Army's Biological Defense Program is to limit the effects of large area biological warfare attacks. The Biological Integrated Detection System exposes suspected air samples to antibodies that react with a particular biological agent. The BIDS is capable of quickly identifying organisms and toxins that can be used as biological weapons; vital information for commanders in the field.

According to Capt. Joye Brown, Officer in Charge (OIC) of the course, "If we're in the field, thousands of soldiers depend on us. If we set up in the city, it would be the same."

(left) Sgt. 1st Class Rickey Robinson discusses the BIDS with one of his students.

(above) "Safety in training is the number one concern. Master Sgt. Karen Kirkpatrick, BIDS Senior Instructor, conducts the Range Safety Brief to start the day.

Each BIDS Company consists of five Platoons and a Headquarters Platoon. Each BIDS Platoon has seven teams consisting of a BIDS, two vehicles, a generator and four personnel.

The Army's newest BIDS qualified soldiers graduated November 6th. More than 30 students ranging in rank from Private to Captain, from four states, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina, completed the course.

In the words of Sgt. First Class Ricky Robinson, "The bottom line, it's all about the soldiers." Sgt. First Class Robinson travels from Tennessee to teach the course. He goes on to say, "If you love BIDS, it's all you want to do." It is this motivation that energizes him to do his very best to make sure the students receive the best possible training.

Maj. Traylor is the Public Affairs Officer for the 100th Division (Institutional Training), Louisville, Ky.

Silver Scimit

Soldiers adjust their NBC mask as they learn how to survive on a battlefield contaminated by NBC agents.

ar

Story by Master Sgt. Nestor Tamayao

Photo by Staff Sgt. Michele Hammond

A large map of Saudi Arabia faces you from the easel. The noncommissioned officer conducting the briefing talks about the local customs and although the room is warm, it is not as hot as it is outside. Beads of sweat roll down your nose and your mind wanders as you gaze outside through the window when all of a sudden you hear "...and welcome to Fort McCoy and Exercise Silver Scimitar 2001."

The briefing was the beginning to what all soldiers go through during in-processing for exercise Silver Scimitar.

Referred to as the Army's largest administrative personnel exercise, Silver Scimitar was conducted at Fort McCoy, Wis., in late July and involves more than 1,100 Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers from 16 states.

Participating in the recent exercise were units from the 81st Regional Support Command, Birmingham, Ala. The units included the 3rd Personnel Command (PERSCOM), 678TH Personnel Services Battalion, 461st Personnel Services Battalion and the 310th Personnel Group (AG).

During the first several days prior to the actual exercise start date, soldiers negotiated a confidence course, received training on force protection techniques, combat lifesaving, nuclear biological and chemical protection, leadership and communication skills and military vehicle drivers' training. The exercise also provided training opportunities on a variety of other personnel systems.

Senior personnel policy makers from the Army's Soldier Support Institute and Total Army Personnel Command worked directly with Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers during the exercise.

Silver Scimitar was designed to simulate the mobilization of soldiers to Southwest Asia. It tests personnel systems and soldiers' capabilities through a series of scenarios and training. The seasonally hot weather at Fort McCoy provides soldiers the experience of working in temperatures similar to those in Southwest Asia.

The exercise depicts a battlefield that suffers heavy casualties. The 3rd PERSCOM and its subordinate units are tasked to conduct operations to maintain theater personnel readiness, and to sustain and maintain personnel support systems. Silver Scimitar challenges commanders, leaders and soldiers in areas such as security, logistics and equipment maintenance while continuing to perform essential tasks in a combat environment.

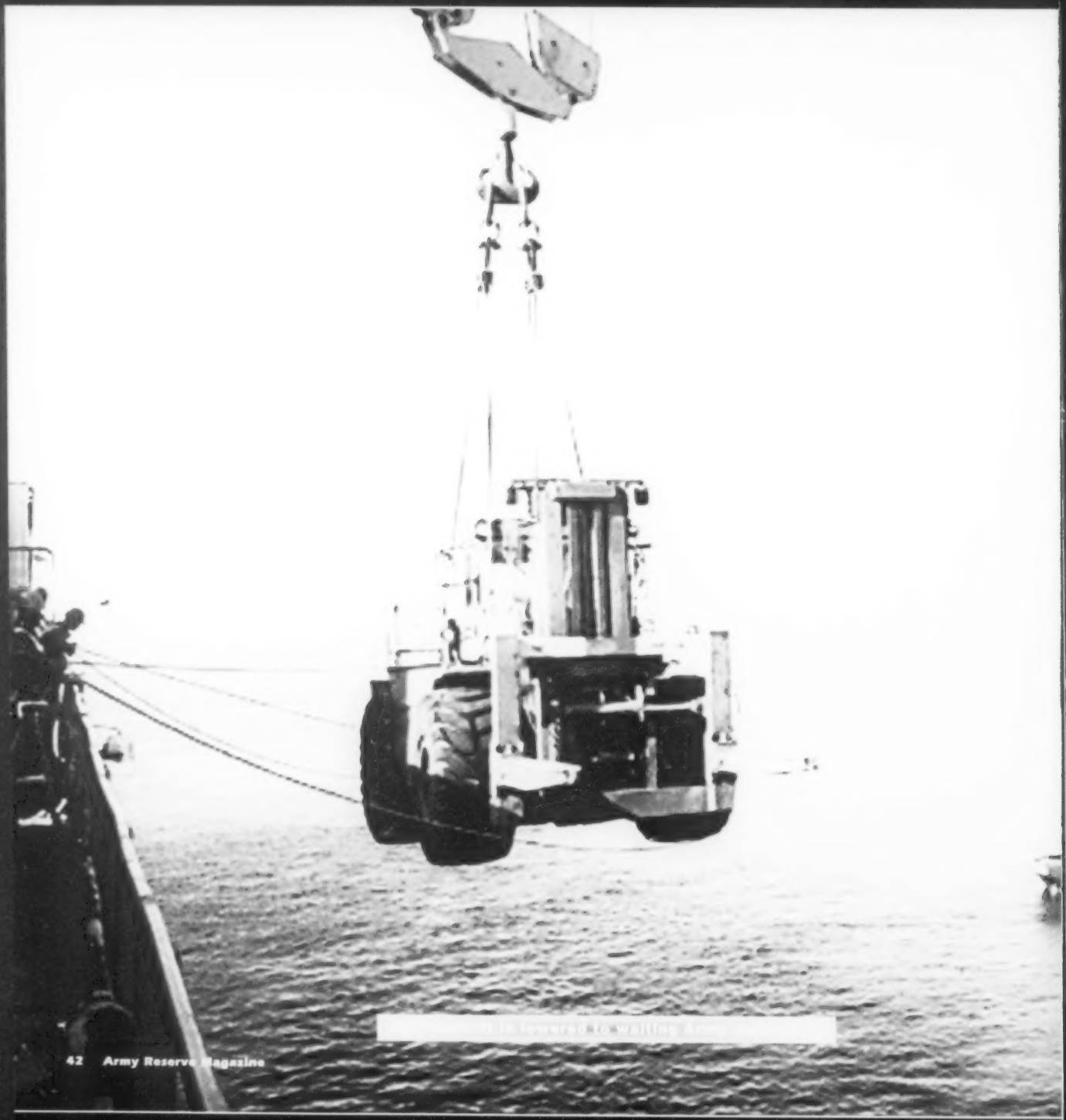
A provisional personnel and administration battalion in the mid-80s developed Silver Scimitar. The battalion was assigned by 3rd Army to become a provisional personnel command, according to Col. James Greenwood, 3rd PERSCOM deputy commander.

"The battalion became involved in various training activities to prepare soldiers for their new provisional PERSCOM wartime mission and found that the exercises, although helpful, did not provide the in-depth theater-level procedural and systems training the soldiers needed," said Greenwood. "So the provisional battalion staff designed a training program in conjunction with the 3rd Army AG and decided to have an exercise of its own that focused on theater personnel systems," he said. "We developed this exercise to provide theater level procedural and systems training for personnel units."

"The Army invests a lot of money in supporting Silver Scimitar and the 3rd PERSCOM invests a great number of man-hours in developing and coordinating the many facets of the exercise," said 3rd PERSCOM's commander, Col. Clyde Leavelle. "Each year it continues to grow more complex and to more closely resemble the technical personnel challenges in a major theater of war."

Master Sgt. Tamayao is with the 304th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Bethell, Wash.

On Land and Sea: 1174



th's 'round-the-clock mission

By Maj. Richard A. Wasserman

NORFOLK NAVAL STATION, Va.—Members of the 1174th Transportation Terminal Battalion, Fort Totten, N.Y., waited patiently in the predawn hours for the USNS Mendonca to pull into Pier 14. With the ship's stow plan in hand they were prepared to move into action to discharge almost 600 pieces of cargo returning from Operation Bright Star, in Egypt.

Spc. Harriet Servio scans a container discharged from the USNS Mendonca.

Beginning late last year, the unit worked closely with a deployment support team from the 832nd Transportation Battalion, Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico, and members of the Fort Eustis-based 7th Transportation Group. Divided into two teams they worked 12-hour shifts around the clock to ensure the ship would depart on time.

"This exercise was of great training value," said Lt. Col. Robert Oliveras, Commander, 832nd Transportation Battalion. "It showed the seamless integration of both Active and Reserve components to complete the mission. Mission accomplishment is important – and even more important is to accomplish the mission and do it safely."

In all, the Mendonca carried 597 pieces of cargo. This cargo included 200 containers, 234-wheeled vehicles, and an assorted array of heavy engineer equipment. As an added challenge, the unit members were required to use cranes to unload the heaviest vehicles directly to Army watercraft alongside the ship. The equipment was then moved by water to Fort Eustis to avoid movement over local highways.

After staging the cargo, it was transshipped to such military bases as Fort Polk, La.; Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; and Fort Carson, Col.

The unit was further challenged when no documentation was found for 83 pieces of cargo. That meant the Worldwide Port System section had to create records for the missing pieces.

"Our unit hasn't done a download such as this in quite a while," said Maj. Damon Taylor, the battalion's officer-in-charge. "This gave us a good overview of all the many details that are required to accomplish our mission."

Photos by Maj. Richard Wasserman

Maj. Wasserman is the Public Affairs Officer for the 1174th Transportation Terminal Battalion, Fort Totten, N.Y.

Force protection

Story and photo by Master Sgt. Dave Johnson,

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio–Seeing all the pieces of a moving puzzle start in different directions only to mesh together like the mosaic in a finely woven tapestry is a delight to a commander.

The 643rd Area Support Group, a brigade-sized unit based in Whitehall, Ohio, conducted and coordinated multiple training exercises in October to foster cohesion

among its four battalions.

The commander, Col. Robert Morrow, according to Sgt. 1st Class Gilman R. Duckworth, an operations noncommissioned officer with 643rd, wanted an exercise that required each battalion to participate.

"This is a battle-focused assessment of the 643rd's assets in a simulated base cluster, a little city, if you will," said Duckworth. "This exercise gives Col. Morrow a picture of his units from the top down."

Col. Morrow's plan, utilize support personnel from many different units during the multiple exercises, forced leaders to work hard.

Each battalion was tasked to perform specific functions.

The 718th Transportation Battalion, based in Columbus, Ohio, conducted its truck rodeo and trained on force protection. The 633rd Quartermaster Battalion, Sharonville, and the 423rd Quartermaster Battalion (Water), Warren, Ohio, sent units to perform field sanitation and practice force protection. The 325th Finance Battalion, Whitehall, sent administrative personnel. Pre-initial entry soldiers, who prepared for basic training on soldiering skills, also participated.

"The emphasis on force protection is not in response to the terrorist attacks in September," said Duckworth. "The commander planned this exercise long before September 11th. We emphasize protecting our soldiers year round."

Soldiers from the 656th Transportation Company, Springfield, Ohio, part of the 718th Transportation Battalion, capture a potential terrorist during Force Protection training.

"We're training to handle certain situations, whom to question, how to react to terrorists," said Pfc Leslie A. Rucker, a truck driver with 705th Transportation Company, Dayton, Ohio.

"I think we should do black-out drive, map reading, and what we need to know when we deploy," said Pvt. Rhonda T. Noble, a truck driver with the 705th. "We need NBC [Nuclear Biological Chemical] training."

Noble got her wish partially granted when she was trained on the reactionary force.

Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer D. Carroll, training NCO for the Headquarters Detachment, 718th, trained her units in force protection. The primary tasks were implementing a reactionary force, defending a perimeter and using an M-8 alarm to detect biological agents.

According to Carroll, the after action review conducted by the 718th indicated most soldiers loved being in a field environment, and they want more tactical training.

"All my FTXs have been productive," said Spc. Kathryn E. Kaczmarek, a water purification specialist with 810th Supply Company, Kings Mills, Ohio. "Mistakes you make a first time usually don't happen a second time. Training can't help but be more realistic because of recent events."

Combining force protection with other exercises, the 643rd trained in the field, the environment many operations NCOs enjoy.

"Everything the Army does can be done in the field," said Duckworth. "Even the showers are tactical."

New soldiers appeared excited to see the Army operate as a team.

"It's great that the pre-IET soldiers see how the Army operates," said Duckworth. "They acted like stallions with reins on. They wanted to get involved. These new soldiers see how we work together out here, and they want to join in and help. This is great for recruiting. They'll tell their friends when they get back home."

The 1001st Quartermaster Company, located in Chillicothe and Columbus provided laundry and bath support.

"It's a real relief to get a good shower out in the field. The 1001st did an excellent job," said Lt. Col. Kenneth L. Mottice, commander of the 718th. "This is great for the troops."

We should base cluster at least two times per year, preferably quarterly," said Duckworth.

The soldiers, soaked, muddy and tired, could be heard screaming "Hooahs" as they packed equipment and prepared to depart for home.

Apparently, they love being in the field.

Master Sgt. Johnson is with the 367th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Whitehall, Ohio.

Train as you fight
WMD equipment gives 472nd soldiers realistic training

Story and photo by Master Sgt. Robert F. Cargie

In back of a U.S. Army Reserve building on the south side of Chicago, soldiers from the 472nd Chemical Battalion respond to incoming casualties; casualties of war in the middle of the third largest city in America. Drivers on a nearby highway slow and stare as they pass the startling scene. There is an obvious incongruity.

"Gas!" was called moments before, causing the soldiers to don their gas masks. Identities are lost in the hoods of the masks, but the knowledge gained through constant training is apparent. The action is instinctive.

As part of an extensive ambulatory and non-ambulatory patient decontamination exercise "Dragon Soldiers" face the reality of blood and evisceration. Pvt. Lisa Becker, 18, of Crete, Ill., was on hand to help remove the boots and gloves of the afflicted soldiers.

"I welcome the challenge of training like this," Becker said. "When you see someone lying unconscious with bloody hands you realize what could happen. It becomes real."

The "train as you fight" mentality is strongly in place. The soldiers have setup a battlefield encampment that sends injured soldiers through a five-step process. The process includes medical triage, removing contaminated clothing and decontaminating the soldier who was a victim of a nuclear, biological or chemical attack.

Spc. Anthony Kraus, 20, of the 472nd Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment became a casualty. With theater blood applied and a prosthetic that imitates a disembowelment wrapped around his midsection, a second look is required to see that the injury isn't real. Playing a casualty is a far cry from his usual role of working in the supply section.

"I'm glad to be part of this," said Kraus. "It helps my unit prepare and lets them know what it takes to work faster. And besides, I was told this blood washes out easily."

With worldwide concern growing about Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), the battalion recently received new equipment that addresses this threat. Soldiers trained on that equipment as part of the weekend exercise.

Doctrine is being developed that includes U.S. Army Reserve units in a scenario where civilians are targets of WMD. The newly arrived equipment is employed in those scenarios. The equipment includes a rapidly deployable shelter that will act as a mobile field decontamination station. The shelter can be operational in a very short time.

Capt. Meredith Kerr-Pagor, 34, an operations officer with the battalion, said units like the 372nd and the 379th Chemical Companies are beginning to train based on the new doctrine. "We don't wish for anything of the kind to happen – in fact we pray it never does – but if it does occur we will be ready to assist," Kerr-Pagor said.

According to Kerr-Pagor, realistic and gruesome training in scenarios that include civilians will hone the skills of the battalion soldiers. She said it would act as a deterrent for those who may consider exacting some form of punishment on citizens of the United States by using weapons of mass destruction.

Capt. James Lincoln, commanding officer of the 379th Chemical Co., summed up the training effort. "We are trying to prepare our soldiers. We are preparing them for a situation that might require them to work in their own backyard."

(Master Sgt. Cargie is with the 350th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Indianapolis, Ind.)

A 472nd Chemical Battalion soldier treats the wounded during a simulated chemical attack.

Reservists get 'real' training with 'virtual' equipment

Story and photo by Spc. Daniel Lucas

CAMP DODGE, Iowa–Army Reservists from the 19th Theater Army Area Command (TAACOM) and 3rd Corps Support Command (COSCOM) participated in a virtual firing exercise with the Fire Arms Training Simulator (FATS) recently.

The system uses a combination of lasers, video and computers to teach soldiers how to use the variety of weapons that the FATS can support.

"We had (FATS) installed a little over 10 years ago," said Maj. Floyd Everett, the range control officer for Camp Dodge. "The system is made up of three computer systems running a variety of video simulations."

Everett said the system could support the training of all branches of the military and civilian police departments, from individual scenarios to squad-size exercises.

"The system can support the training on the AT-4 anti-tank rocket, M-60 machine gun, .50 caliber machine gun, M-240B machine gun, M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon, M-16 rifle, M-203 grenade launcher and the nine millimeter pistol," he said.

Sgt. Troy King of the 366th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment instructs soldiers from the 3rd COSCOM about when to engage their targets on the FATS range at Camp Dodge, Iowa.

Everett said there are plans to add a Mark 19 grenade machine gun during the system's next update.

The new 2001 FATS version will be a Windows-based system. That will make it faster and user-friendlier, Everett said. There will be the possibility of running a wider variety of weapons systems, plus the ability to create computer-generated scenarios to fit specific types of training that the system's manufacturer believes the soldiers need.

In addition, Everett said, the new system will store scenarios on laser disks, saving space on the computer hard drive and making for faster scenario loading time. On top of all of that, the new system will also be quieter, he said.

"The only thing that the system is missing is the smell of gunfire," said Brig. Gen. Donald L. Jacka, Jr., commander of the 3rd COSCOM.

The FATS system uses compressed air, supplied by tanks located in the back of the room, to fire the weapons. As the weapon fires, it shoots a laser beam at the screen, where it is recorded in the computer program that marks shots fired, hits and kills.

A system this complicated should take a lifetime to learn, but soldiers can become trained up on how to run the FATS in a couple of hours, according to operators.

"I was trained yesterday for two hours on how to operate the FATS," said Staff Sgt. Joel Dingman of the 19th TAACOM, one of the system operators. "I went to range control to take the class; it didn't take long at all."

Except for all three computer systems needing to be started simultaneously, the setup is rather minimal. The scenarios come on a disk of 10, and there are more than 200 total scenarios.

Even though the system shows a little age, it is still has a lot to offer the units that visit and use it.

"This system is fantastic; it truly helps soldiers be prepared for live fire," said Command Sgt. Maj. James "Jim" Rosacker, the COSCOM's command sergeant major. "The FATS system teaches soldiers to familiarize themselves with the different weapons that they might have to use in their careers."

But the soldiers that used the system the most had the most to say about the FATS.

"I think that it's good for soldiers to use different weapon systems in an indoor environment," said Spc. Matt Andrews, of the 3rd COSCOM's materiel section. Andrews also said the indoor environment is more appealing to soldiers, especially when it's cold and snowy outside.

"It is like playing a big game of Nintendo," said Spc. Anthony Deal, another 3rd COSCOM soldier. "With this system, we can train up on different weapons, so we do better when we do live fire. I wish we could do the simulator more often."

Pvt. Ben Fox, a new 3rd COSCOM soldier, said the

See FATS, page 61

From financial secur

By Capt. Rebecca P. Leggieri

It started out as just another routine tour of duty for an Army Reserve general.

On Sept. 10, 2001, Maj. Gen. Robert W. Chesnut left his wife, Vivian, at their home and business in Tupelo, Miss. He was on his way to the airport for a four-day tour of duty in Washington, D.C., as he has done for the past 21 months.

This time, he was traveling to attend a meeting of the Army Reserve Forces Policy Committee (ARFPC) in the Pentagon, filling in for his active counterpart, Maj. Gen. Philip Kensinger. As he boarded the plane, he was unaware, as was the rest of the world, how everything would change on September 11.

Maj. Gen. (then Brig. Gen.) Robert Chesnut.

During a break from the ARFPC meeting, Chesnut had just left his office headed a short distance away. He was going to the office of Maj. Cole Hogan, his executive officer, and escort, Maj. Pat Richardson when a hijacked Boeing 757crashed into the Pentagon.

The shockwave blew him off the escalator. He could see people in the corridors blown up against the walls or rolling on the floor. He tried to fight his way to the hallway where he left his escort to check on him but was swept out of the building by the crowd.

The next few hours were spent helping wherever he could and looking for his staff. He eventually found Richardson, who had escaped the blast because he had steeped into an office seconds before the plane hit.

Hogan was not so lucky. He was in his office and that section on the E wing of the Pentagon took most of the blast.

"It's one of those things when you look back and say if I hadn't done this or done that, I might not be here," said Chesnut quietly.

Chesnut is currently assigned to Headquarters, Department of the Army as the Assistant G-3 (Individual Mobilization Augmentee) for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs. Before Sept. 11th, this position required traveling to the Pentagon from his hometown of Tupelo three to four days at a time, two to three times a month.

Eye of the Storm

Since those horrible moments of terror, Chesnut has been in the eye of the storm for the Army. He works night and weekend shifts in the Army Operations Center (AOC) as the general duty officer for the Crisis Action Team. The Crisis Action Team, otherwise known as the CAT, consists of 30 plus officers representing each area of the Army and was stood up within minutes of the September 11th attacks at the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

His orders are open-ended, he said. That means they could last as long as two years under the partial mobilization signed by President George W. Bush.

Chesnut is no stranger to serving his country in times of need, as evidenced by a 33-year career that started in Vietnam as a platoon leader, where his service and valor earned him two Bronze Star Medals and a Purple Heart. It took him through Operation Desert Storm and peaked, so far, with a pro-

ity to 'Homeland Security'

Chesnut takes a break during training at Camp Blanding, Fla.

Then a 2nd Lieutenant, Chesnut stands in front of "Barbarella" in his company's motor pool at Fort Hood, Texas, just prior to deploying to Vietnam.

motion ceremony on the CAT floor on Jan. 18, which stopped activities for 15 minutes to allow this soldier away from home to pin on his second star.

"That's where all the people I work with are and they're mainly Reserve or Guard. I think of us as a team," said Chesnut.

Typical day

An ordinary day for Chesnut begins at 6 p.m. when he reports for his shift at the Army Operations Center. There is an ebb and flow to activities, he explained. The big event is the 7:30 a.m. Army Staff Brief. Rehearsal begins at 4 a.m. for the 30-35 minute briefing. The senior leadership of the Army attends each briefing to include the Secretary of the Army, Thomas E. White and the Chief of Staff of the Army, General Eric Shinseki.

In the first months after the terrorist attacks, most of the efforts were focused toward homeland security, specifically involving military support of civilian authorities. The Director of Military Support is the executive agent for the Secretary of Defense to provide joint (all services) support to civil authorities. Any civilian request for military support, such as force protection, is sent to DOMS, who then sends it to the Secretary's office, who works the request through the CAT to get the right military unit to the right place.

These requests consumed most of the CAT's assets in the first two months, according to Chesnut. He noted that as the war on terrorism gained momentum; more time was spent with homeland defense, force protection, U.S. Central Command and other areas.

Mobilization

One such area is mobilization. The mobilization branch of the CAT develops the mobilization request and works closely with the general duty officer who approves the mobilization orders for the reserve components but only after "a lot of give and take, mission analysis by U.S. Forces Command, discussion with Joint Staff, the unified commands and various Army representatives" said Chesnut.

Mobilization issues seems like a natural task assigned to an Army Reserve general, but Chesnut feels there is no distinction between the components on his watch.

"It takes a while for everyone to gain your confidence and not having done this full time, it takes a while to get into the flow, to get an overarching feel for the whole picture," said Chesnut. "I'm not surprised at the high level of talent in our reserve

Bob and Vivian Chesnut during a visit to Hawaii.

component soldiers because I've worked with the Guard and Reserve for 30 odd years in training, seen their ability and know how effective all three components work together as a team."

"The Army Reserve has really shown the active component what volunteerism and being 'twice the citizen' is all about," said Maj. Will Flucker, an active component soldier who is assigned to the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, and now ironically occupies the Army Reserve desk for the Crisis Action Team.

Flucker added that the "Reserve guys" always raise their hands first when something needs to get done. He also commented on Chesnut's style of CAT leadership.

Out of the three "CAT GOs" (Crisis Action Team General Officers) Gen. Chesnut's style is quiet and unassuming, Flucker said.

"When he asks you for an answer to a question, you almost feel as though you outrank him, he is so polite. However, woe to him who does not know the answer or take Gen. Chesnut seriously. When Gen. Chesnut is through with you, you feel as if you let not only him down, but yourself," he said.

Reservists serving

Slowly over the past few months, the night shift's active soldiers have been replaced by reservists. Currently 80 percent of the personnel are Reserve Component soldiers.

In talking with his soldiers, Chesnut found out that many have left jobs, financial opportunities, and small children and just left their lives on hold. They come from all branches of the Reserve Components: Troop Program Unit, Individual Readiness Reserve and Individual Mobilization Augmentee.

"And it is impossible to figure out who is which – as far as the total Army, the work product is there," states Chesnut with pride in his voice. "I think given the time and training to get acclimated, the Reserve has done very well."

Chesnut's soldiers are not the only ones who have left behind a job or family. Vivian Chesnut, Chesnut's wife of 16 years, could easily feel overwhelmed with her husband, now gone for an indefinite period of time and not at home to help her with their business and their life in Tupelo. She could feel that way. She does not.

She anticipated separations when she married him 16 years ago on a Friday night because he left for his weekend Army Reserve duty the next day at 4 a.m.

"My job is to keep the home fires burning, candles lit and the kids taken care of," she said. "It can be lonely but I knew that if I loved this man, I would need to let him work in this way."

Spousal support

Vivian Chesnut is much more than the traditional homemaker. The Chesnuts both share responsibilities in the office where Bob Chesnut is self-employed as a Senior Financial Advisor and a Certified Financial Planner with American Express Financial Advisors. Vivian runs the office and Robert makes the decisions, even now when he is 883 miles away.

Phone calls are essential to the business, since Chesnut has not been home since the week of Sept. 17. He was able to fly home for four days to be in the office the Monday after the terrorist attacks because he had no idea of what might happen when the stock market opened that Monday morning.

"My wife has been very, very helpful. I've put a lot on her," "said Chesnut.

Vivian, however, considers her situation very simple.

"I have a heavy heart because I feel so fortunate for myself and others are sacrificing. We are lucky he is stateside and a phone call away. The soldiers overseas are true patriots."

Her experience through the years as an Army Reserve spouse has helped her in her current family situation. She reminisces about drill weekends where "Theater Nights" were common, with a rented movie and popcorn for the couple's children and friends. The children, all four of them, never felt left out, just proud of him she said.

The wife of an Individual Mobilization Augmentee does not have much of a support system, Vivian pointed out. There is no Troop Program Unit or base to fall back on.

My age has helped me. I remember the sick overwhelming feeling I had waiting for the word about cousins and my brother in Vietnam. I felt the same feeling when I saw the pictures of the Pentagon because I knew he was in there."

It was not until many hours later that she found out exactly where her husband had been when the plane hit that September morning. He was still in the Pentagon but he was safe and serving his country once again.

He is still there and still serving.

Capt. Leggieri is a Public Affairs officer with the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve

Army Reservist makes Olympic history

U.S. Navy photos by Journalist 1st Class Preston Keres

Army Reserve 2nd Lt. Garrett Hines, USA-1 brakeman, waves to the crowd after receiving his silver medal for the men's four-man bobsled during a 2002 Winter Olympic Games medal ceremony in Salt Lake City, Feb. 24, 2002.

By Master Sgt. Vicki Washington

An Army Reservist helped the United States end nearly half a century of Olympic frustration for the U.S. men's bobsled team by earning a silver medal during the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Army Reserve 2nd Lt. Garrett Hines received the medal for his part in the men's four-man bobsled race Feb. 24 and, along with teammate Randy Jones, made Olympic history by becoming the first black U.S. men to win medals in the Winter Olympics.

The four-man team, which included team members Todd Hays and Bill Schuffenhauer, drove the fire-engine red USA-1 sled to second in 3:07.81 to snag second place.

Hines, the brakeman for USA-1, is an environmental engineer in the Army Reserve and was competing in his second Olympic Winter Games. In 1998, he was a member of the two-and four-man American bobsled teams in Nagano, Japan.

The 32-year-old Chicago, Ill. native was also the brakeman on this year's two-man bobsled team in which he paired with driver Todd Hays. The Hines-Hays team finished in fourth place, missing a medal by three tenths of a second.

Hines' Stats

Year	Event	Place
1998	Olympics 4-man	4th
1998	Olympics 2-man	10th
2000	World Championships 4-man	4th
2000	World Championships 2-man	6th
2000	Goodwill Games 2-man	8th
2000	Brakeman Push Championship	1st

(inset) Driver Todd Hays and brakeman Army Reserve 2nd Lt. Garrett Hines of USA-1 prepare to push off for their final heat during the Men's two-man bobsled competition at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, Feb. 16, 2002. The two make their way down the track at the Utah Olympic Park as they attempt to bring in a medal-winning time.

A different call to duty

Reservists selected to carry torch

Story by Spc. Brandon S. Katz

Ft. Meade, Md.—The phone rings and Maj. Donna Garnett, an Army Reservist and the Budget Officer for the 311th Theater Signal Command here, turns to grab it. An incoherent voice screams from the other end, "They selected us!"

Garnett didn't understand the message but knew it was Lisa Goldman, a student in a fitness class called The Sergeant's Program, based in Rockville, Md., where Garnett is an instructor.

After Goldman calmed down, she explained that she had nominated both Garnett and herself for the 2002 Olympic Torch Run. She told Garnett she had just received the confirmation letter explaining her acceptance as a runner and was calling to see if Garnett had received it as well.

After a little investigation, Garnett discovered she too had been selected to run. "They decided to select us as a pair. She and I both were given the opportunity to participate," Garnett said with a big smile on her face.

"We were notified in July or August that we had been selected and asked to respond if we wanted to participate. Three weeks later, they sent us uniforms and instructions," she explained.

Garnett and Goldman were selected as part of the Greater D.C. Group. Garnett's leg of the run was held on December 21, 2001 and went from 13th St., NW into Freedom Plaza on Pennsylvania Ave., just east of the White House. There, she would hand off the torch to Goldman who would then carry it towards the White House.

Garnett received the course layout three weeks before the actual run. She wasn't worried about it though. "The route is only like one-fifth of a mile, three or four hundred yards," she explained as a little smile crossed her face. "I don't know the time limit…you can run, you can walk."

"Everyone was very excited for me," she said, "and very thrilled and probably as flabbergasted as I was. 'You're going to do that?' was the reaction I got," explained Garnett.

The runners were carried on a bus or van in front of the procession. As they approached their pre-selected starting points, they would get out and receive their torch and wait for the flame. They would then turn and receive the flame from the runner behind them.

"As I got off the bus and was handed my torch, several of my friends were there, some of my clients, and they were all yelling and screaming, 'Donna, Donna!'. My parents live in the Midwest, and they were not able to come, but they were rooting for me."

Garnett knew she was lucky because, not only had she been nominated, she was actually selected to run. Knowing the process and the odds of being chosen, gives many people with the thought, "There's no chance, no snowball I can get that or someone that I know, someone that I nominated, could," explained Garnett. "I would definitely encourage people to do it. You could be as lucky as I was," she said with a gleam in her eye.

When asked if she would run again, Garnett explained, "I would definitely run again…it was weird I wasn't nervous, I was just excited beyond belief. It was the most exciting thing I can remember doing."

Maj. Donna Garnett from the 311th Theater Signal Command holds the Olympic Torch aloft.

Spc. Katz is a Public Affairs Specialist with the 311th Theater Signal Command, Fort Meade, Md.

The "Birdman" of the 653rd ASG

World-class carver makes a living shaping wood

By John D. Wagner

WILDOMAR, Calif.—Displaying a smile of amusement, Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Wardwell cradled a simple duck sculpture in his hands and recalled it as the first he painstakingly carved from a wooden block 21 years ago.

"I call it the 'tugboat,' " he said, chuckling as he looked at the simple black and white carving in his hands. "But at the time, I was thrilled with it."

Next to him was a carving of another bird—a pintail duck that looked virtually alive with its green, yellow gray and white body, brown head and exquisitely-detailed feathers.

It was a sign of how far Wardwell had come. The duck won second place in the Ward World Wildfowl Carvers Championship in 1997 in Ocean City, Md.

Wardwell, a platoon sergeant with the 653rd Area Support Group during his Reserve drills, is a world-class bird carver who not only places repeatedly in world competitions, but makes his living by selling his creations. He has won about 80 awards in national and international meets.

"I have a passion for taking a block of wood and turning it into something lifelike," he said.

Wardwell first got started back in 1980, then a marine at Quantico, Va. One day he looked at a copy of Outdoor Life magazine and noticed an ad for a water fowl carvers' festival in Easton, Md.

"I decided to go and I saw the carvings of duck decoys," he said. "I noticed how elaborate and highly detailed they were. They look so real, like they could walk off the table. I liked the detail. I was really amazed at how they got that wood to look."

Professional full-time carvers advised him to get the "bible" of the art—the 382-page book, Game Bird Carving by Bruce Burk. He's never formal formal training, but life has never been the same since. When stationed on a Navy ship he brought his wood and carving tools with him. Some on the ships didn't like him doing it. But he kept his area clean. He continued honing his skills during stints in the Navy, National Guard and then Army Reserve.

Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Wardwell cradles one of his sculpted creations.

Wardwell, 43, estimates he carved 50 to 60 ducks the first 10 years and would typically sell them for $250 to $300 each. He has created about 175 birds since he began. He won his first award in 1990 at the Decoy and Wild Fowl Carvers Association Competition in Palm Springs, Calif. He entered and won first place in the Novice Decorative Floating Waterfowl Category against about 50 other applicants.

For the last two years, he has carved birds of prey, mainly hawks. He either sells the carvings or uses them to produce bronze reproductions.

His latest project, still in process, is a hawk on a glove-covered hand. The hand was actually patterned after Wardwell's, who is a licensed "falconer" and "hawker."

"Birds of prey are very intense" he said. "But hawks are easy to tame the falcons."

Mr. Wagner is with the 63rd Regional Support Command Public Affairs Office, Los Alamitos, Calif.

KUDOS

Army Reserve nurse makes history, pins on second star

Maj. Gen. Donna F. Barbisch has her major general stars pinned on her by Lt. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, Chief, Army Reserve, and by her mother, Jean Feigley, in a January ceremony held at the National Headquarters of the Reserve Officers Association in Washington, DC. She is the first Army Reserve nurse to wear two stars.

Story and photo by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

WASHINGTON—The first Army Reserve nurse to wear two stars was promoted to major general at the National Headquarters of the Reserve Officers Association January 18.

Maj. Gen. Donna F. Barbisch had her stars pinned on her jacket by Lt. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, Chief, Army Reserve, and her mother, Jean B. Feigley. Barbisch's daughters, Rebecca and Patricia Barbisch, placed her major general insignia on her uniform shirt.

Barbisch, a Vietnam veteran, is the Military Assistant (Individual Mobilization Augmentee) to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs in Washington, DC, a major general assignment. She has been in this position since May 2001. Besides being the first Army Reserve nurse to serve in a major general position, she is also the first Army Reserve nurse to serve in a non-Army Medical Department major general assignment.

After pinning on her stars, Plewes presented Barbisch with her major general's flag. He also praised her work in preparing the Army Reserve and other military, federal, state and local organizations to effectively work together to deal with the results of a domestic terrorist event.

"We would not have responded so well on September 11th and since then without the contributions of Donna Barbisch," Plewes said.

Barbisch thanked those attending the ceremony, especially her mother. Her

mother received flowers but Barbisch's daughters received something different. Rebecca, an electrical and computer engineer, and Patricia, a mechanical engineer, each received a compass " to help them find their way and to stay on course."

Barbisch entered the Army as a private first class in 1967. After completing her nursing education in the Army Student Nurse Program, she was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps on December 31, 1968. She has had numerous command and staff assignments in her more than 32 years of active Army and Army Reserve commissioned service and in 1991 became one of the first Army Nurse Corps officers to command when she took command of the 350th Mobile Army Support Hospital (MASH).

In April 1997, she became the chief nurse of the 3rd Medical Command in Decatur, Ga., a brigadier general assignment. She was promoted to brigadier general in November 1997. She was also the deputy commander for clinical support of the 3rd Medical Command.

One of the Defense Department's leading experts on managing the consequences of a domestic terrorist event, she serves as the senior consultant on homeland defense and homeland security to the Chief, Army Reserve. During her assignment with the 3rd Medical Command, she did a temporary tour of duty as senior advisor to the commander of the Soldier Biological Chemical Command for Weapons of Mass Destruction, Consequence Management, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

In her civilian career, Barbisch is Chief Executive Officer of Global Deterrence Alternatives, a strategic planning organization for creative policy, planning and integration solutions for the threats by weapons of mass destruction. Her focus is on organizational effectiveness, strategic planning and leader development as it applies to national and international response to terrorism and emergency planning. She has advised the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Washington, DC, Council of Governments. She is also an adjunct professor at the College of Health Professions, the Medical University of South Carolina.

Command performance!

First female commander of RSC promoted to major general

Maj. Gen. Karol A. Kennedy's son Rob pins on one of her stars.

Story and photos by Jack Gordon

Moon Township, Pa.—The four stars that were proudly pinned upon the shoulder epaulets of freshly promoted Maj. Gen. Karol A. Kennedy's uniform were important – but perhaps not as important as who placed them –her husband, her brother, her son and his fiancée. For Kennedy, family is everything.

Citing the support and inspiration of her family as what has always given her "the right stuff," Kennedy was surrounded by those who shared in the milestone achievement of a military career that spans nearly 40 years beginning with the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in 1963.

Kennedy first served as an enlisted soldier for two years before she was commissioned from the Officer Candidate School in Fort McClellan, Ala., in 1965. Since her initial enlistment she has served on active duty, in the National Guard, and the Army Reserve.

In May 2001 she became the first female soldier appointed as commander of a regional support command in the Army Reserve – the 99th — where she had served four years as deputy commander prior to being selected as commander.

"This is a great day for the Kennedy family," said Maj. Gen. Craig Bambrough, deputy commander, U.S. Army Reserve Command, Atlanta, Ga., acknowledging the presence of Kennedy's son Rob; his fiancée Joan; and her brother Michael, who had traveled from Kennedy's – and Bambrough's – home state of California to attend the promotion ceremony.

It's also a great day for the Army Reserve," Bambrough said, "since about 30 percent of the Army Reserve is female, and I think we're finally 'getting it."

Success Parameter

"Recently," Kennedy said, "somebody asked me if I'd ever considered leaving the Army Reserve because I thought I'd never become a general. If that had been my success parameter, I'd have been a long time ago. I can tell you that I never – ever – thought I'd become a general officer. In my early days in the Army, the military culture and my experience were not such that becoming a general was something women expected – or even aspired to."

Kennedy says it was not without reservations that she approached her appointment as the first female selected to command an RSC. She knew she would become a symbol – and that her achievement would likely inspire other female troops to aspire toward greater goals, and firmly embedded in that symbolism was opportunity, but even so, a reality check was in order.

She recalled an email exchange with Bambrough only an evening before she was to assume command of the 99th.

"I said … 'I'm a little nervous – I'm a little in awe of what I'm about to take on here,'" she told Bambrough. "And his response to me was 'Just think of what you can do; and what an opportunity it is to be able to do something for 25,000 soldiers!' And I said 'Wow!' So this is a great mission … and I have taken it on."

She cited, sometimes with the wry humor her family and friends know she may spring at any moment, the trust, support and motivation supplied from her family as inspirational, for early in her journey, it was that support of her duty that once created, and yet comprise the inner, driving force that has brought her here today, to this unprecedented position of leadership.

She also offered advice about what it takes.

"If you want to become a general officer – don't worry about your OERs – worry instead … about the soldiers under your charge," Kennedy said. "Be concerned about the whole soldier – his family; his employer — the civilians who are responsible for his care, and those who been entrusted their son, or daughter, to us."

"Don't worry about your mission, because if your intent is clear and your expectation high – if you don't confuse leadership with interference – your soldiers will accomplish the mission. Don't plan to be a general, because if that's your focus – if you're political, or guarded in your actions and communications, and only concerned with your career progression or self-preservation … you'll miss what is best. And remember, your success is not measured by what is on your shoulders – it's measured by what's on the shoulders and sleeves … of your soldiers!"

Family is important to Maj. Gen. Karol A. Kennedy, and as commander of the 99th Regional Support Command of the United States Army Reserve – her "family" now numbers … 25,000!

Mr. Gordon is the Chief of Information, Public Affairs Office, 99th Regional Support Command, Moon Township, Pa.

Army Reservist awarded Distinguished Flying Cross for rescue 30-years after heroic event

By Maj. Jon Dahms

WASHINGTON—The story of a heroic Vietnam War rescue mission was recently brought to light when after an Army Reservist, who was honored for his part in the rescue, was featured with other heroes of the mission on an ABC reunion show called "Come Together" which aired Dec. 24, 2001.

On July 22, 2001 (now) Maj. Michael L. Horsch was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions on Aug. 31, 1970. Maj. Gen. Richard Cody, the current commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division located at Ft. Campbell, Ky, presented the award.

Others involved with the rescue, Master Sgt. (Ret.) Rick Tipton, Chief Warrant Officer Harvey Reints and Maj. (Ret.) Lee Brooks, along with Horsch, were presented with the 101st Airborne Division Commanding General's "Recognition of Excellence" coins.

"It was quite an honor to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross even 30 years after the mission," Horsch said, "and even more meaningful to have it presented by Maj. Gen. Cody."

The producers for the LMNO Production's segment called "A Soldier's Story," Bill Paolantonio and Colom Keating, worked with ABC Television to fly those involved with the rescue and their families from locations all over the United States to Los Angeles to tell their stories and be reunited.

Horsch currently serves as Battalion Operations Officer for the Army Reserve's 3rd Battalion (MP), 3rd Brigade (CS), 84th Division (IT).

It all started with an attempt to insert some Rangers from L Company, 75th Ranger Regiment in a bomb crater, behind enemy lines, for a reconnaissance mission. The OH-6A light observation helicopter (called a Loach) that was being used for the insertion, crash-landed at its landing zone (LZ) after its tail rotor struck a tree stump. The three soldiers quickly exited the aircraft, took up defensive positions in the crater, and called for help.

Horsch was part of the rescue team sent to extract the personnel from the downed helicopter. Initially, they had to secure the area by inserting members of an Aero Rifle Platoon from two UH-1H (Hueys). Ten soldiers were inserted in the crater to secure the perimeter for the upcoming extraction. Rifle fire and Rocket Propelled Grenades from enemy positions began to increase as the rescue operation was being carried out.

Cobra helicopter gunships and Air Force F-4 Phantoms joined the battle, keeping the enemy at bay and creating the appropriate environment to attempt the extraction.

Maj. (Retired) Mac Jones, who piloted the C Troop 2/17th lead Huey, said "Over a period of five hours, twenty six Cobra helicopter gunships and six Air Force F-4 Phantoms expended their ordnance to keep an estimated company-sized element of North Vietnamese Army (NVA) at bay thus creating the appropriate environment to attempt the extraction of the American soldiers on the ground."

The commander of the 2nd Squadron, 17th Air Cavalry Regiment, Colonel Robert Molinelli, decided the only way to get the men out of the LZ was a ladder extraction. Back at base, three C Troop 2/17th Hueys were rigged with ladders and were soon on their way to the battle area.

Around four hours after the initial crash, the first extraction helicopter came into the LZ. The air support was able to keep the enemy fire down enough to allow the extraction of 6 members of the Aero Rifle Platoon and the pilot of the crashed Loach.

A second ladder-rigged Huey, piloted by Capt. Mac Jones, came in to rescue the remaining personnel on the ground, but Staff Sgt. Rick Tipton lost his grip and fell back into the crater as it was lifting off. Alone in the crater, Tipton alerted the remaining ladder-rigged helicopter that he was still on the ground.

The final Huey, piloted by Chief Warrant Officer Reints and co-piloted by Capt. Brooks with Horsch aboard as Crew Chief, came in, under heavy enemy fire, to extract Tipton. Tipton quickly grabbed the ladder and motioned them to lift off.

While at an altitude of around 800 feet, Tipton began loosing his grip under the weight of his full rucksack and other equipment. Weak from his ordeal and with blasts of air pummeling him at that altitude he lost his grip and fell back until he was hanging on only by his knees.

Maj. Michael L. Horsch (third from right) poses after receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross. Pictured from left to right, Mr. Eric Schotz, President of LMNO Productions; Maj. (Ret.) Lee Brooks, 1970 Troop Executive Officer & UH-1H Pilot; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Harvey Rients, 1970 Aircraft Commander & UH-1H Pilot; Master Sgt. (Ret.) Rick Tipton, 1970 Ranger Team Leader; Mr. Bill Paolantonio, LMNO Executive Vice President and Executive Producer of "A Soldiers Story" Program; Mr. Colom Keating, LMNO Productions Producer of "A Soldier's Story" Program; Ms. Meredith Vieira, ABC's Host of the "Come Together" Program; Horsch, 1970 UH-1H "Huey" & AH-1G "Cobra" helicopter Crew Chief); Maj. Gen. Richard A. Cody, commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division and Capt. Chris Cassibry, Aide to the Commanding General of the 101st.

Without regard for his own safety, Horsch unsnapped his life line; removed his flight helmet, body armor and 45 caliber pistol; left his position and started to descend down the ladder as the helicopter flew through the sky. The exhausted Tipton began loosing his final leg hold and began slipping off the ladders.

At the last moment Horsch managed to grab Tipton and trap both of his legs in a ladder rung, telling him to hang on. By now the pilot was aware of what was happening below and quickly searched for a place to set the ship down as the two men on the ladder held on for dear life.

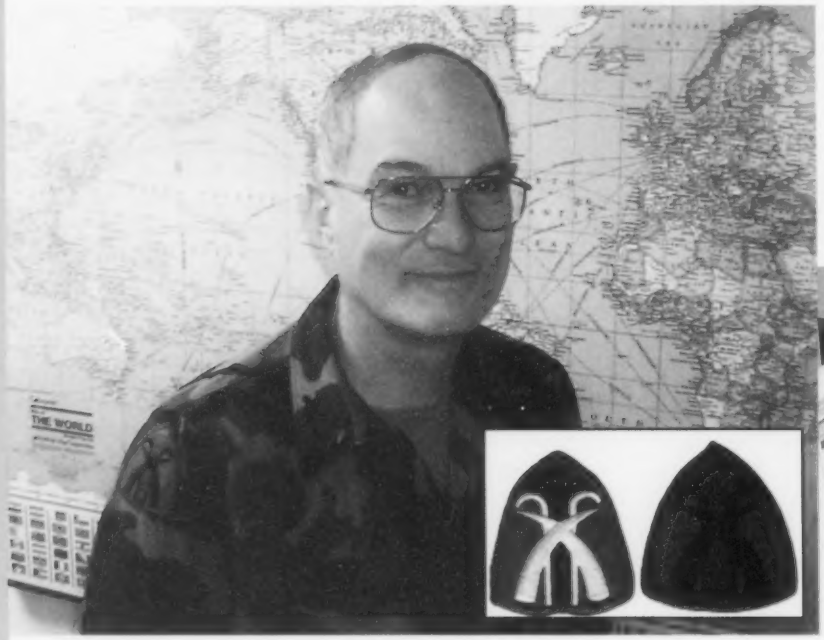
Spotting a dirt road he began his decent with the men on the ladder nearing the end of their endurance. Just before touch down Horsch lost his grip and fell to the ground with Tipton crashing down close behind. Looking up they saw the tail rotor of the Huey coming down directly over their heads. Horsch used hand and arm signals to communicate to the gunner to have the pilot move the aircraft forward, and the aircraft rose up and repositioned about 30 feet in front of them.

Horsch grabbed the exhausted and dazed Tipton then made a mad dash to get to the aircraft. Upon reaching the aircraft Horsch threw both Tipton and himself on the cargo deck as the pilots took off with the UH-1H, which was still under enemy fire. The helicopter returned to Phu Bai, and dropped off Tipton at the 85th Evacuation Hospital for a check over. The mission was completed approximately 5 hours after the initial crash.

Maj. Dahms is with the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, Washington, D.C.

KUDOS

Confidential work, public recognition



(left) After 30 years, Master Sgt. Kenneth Mair, proudly wears a U.S. Army Support Thailand patch. (inset) U.S. Army Support Thailand patches - subdued and dress uniform.

(below) Capt. John Wydock used both the Internet and shoe leather to research the military history associated with his fellow Reservist.

Story and photos by Dorea Fowlkes

His unit's mission in Laos was secret.

As a consequence, Master Sgt. Kenneth Mair never considered wearing his U.S. Army Support Thailand patch on the right shoulder of his uniform signifying he was a combat veteran.

That was more than 30 years ago. When Mair left the Army in the spring of 1971, he forgot about it. Now, thanks to the research of a fellow Reservist, Mair, the personnel services NCO for Individual Mobilization Augmentees, is wearing the patch again.

Capt. John Wydock met Mair when both men were mobilized for duty with the Military Traffic Management Command after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America. Wydock was intrigued to learn about Mair's participation in the Vietnam War – particularly his time served in Thailand. An avid historian, Wydock immediately began to research Mair's former unit.

"I knew that there were forces in Laos, and I was now more eager to learn about Mair's unit," said Wydock.

While reviewing records, Wydock made a critical discovery. In 1992, the Army publicly recognized personnel who had served in Thailand, Laos or Cambodia from March 1961 to March 1973 and authorized the wearing of the U.S. Army Support Thailand patch.

"I felt Master Sergeant Mair had served his country for two years in Thailand and deserved to be recognized for it," said Wydock.

The next challenge was finding U.S. Army Support Thailand patches. After an extensive search, Wydock found a battle-dress uniform subdued patch at a local military clothing sales store. On the Internet, he located a Class A dress-uniform patch through a military artifacts company.

Wydock proudly presented the patches to Mair at an informal birthday ceremony Jan. 15. He also presented Mair with a display case containing the patch and several authorized medals.

"I am very proud to now wear this uniform again with the U.S. Army Support Thailand patch for my support to a unit that I am very proud to recognize," said Mair.

Mair served in Korat, Thailand, with the undisclosed unit in 1969. For security reasons, members of the unit were not recognized for one of its mission in Laos.

Even after his departure from Thailand, Mair kept his duty assignment confidential for national security reasons. After his discharge, he worked as a computer programmer/analyst at an insurance company in Maine.

Mair joined the Army Reserve in 1981. He began working for MTMC's Plans, Readiness and Mobilization staff seven years later.

Ms. Fowlkes is with the Operations Center, Military Traffic Management Command.

Overcoming adversity

Determination sees Reservist through tough times

Story by Staff Sgt. Patrick J. McDonald

Everything she hoped for could have ended with a car accident. In May 1999, Army Reserve Capt. (then 1st Lieutenant) Billie Cartwright of the Fort Lewis-based 448th Civil Affairs Battalion nearly brought a promising career that included membership on the All-Army Cross Country Team and running in the Army 10 miler in Washington D.C. to an end after sustaining a fracture in her back. Still, her will to win and her own undaunted determination brought her where she is today...once again competing in her primary sport of distance running and having the opportunity to train with top athletes and run in top notch events.

"The car accident changed my perspective on dedication to my sport and I was determined to come back at an even higher level and I have since made it my goal to qualify for the Olympic Trials," noted Cartwright. "I don't consider quitting as an option. I keep to a rigid schedule, one that is developed with the help of my coaches and training advisors, and I constantly monitor myself."

"I look for signs of over training and fatigue. If you push yourself too much all at once, you will end up digging yourself into a hole. You need to pay attention to your body and the signals it gives off. However, you have to balance that with the will to train when tired and to overcome the minor aches and pains that are a part of competitive sports. Determining how much is to much is a fine line that you are always testing the limits of."

She credited a number of factors with her training regiment and running success. "I did not consider myself an athlete prior to high school. My family moved a lot, so I used running to meet people who would have similar interests. As I grew with the sport I seemed to win more and more races, it wasn't the most important thing, but, it was a nice bonus."

Cartwight, who originally enlisted in the Army out of High School, spent most of her initial military obligation in the motor pool at a Forward Support Battalion in Germany. "During that time I decided I wanted more choices in my life and a great way to achieve that would be to go to college and take advantage of my strengths, running and a knack for science."

She attended Penn State University and received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Biochemistry. "I chose this path because it sounded hard and I wanted to see how well I could do. It reflected my own philosophy of life – to take on a challenge head on and apply my self to it wholeheartedly." During her time at Penn State, she also joined a college running club team to keep up her training regime. It was during that time where she began to formalize her training and understand what needed to be done to improve her running ability.

Capt Billie Cartwright.

Today, Cartwright lives by a strict goal-oriented training regiment. "You have to put your heart and mind into it and you will see it pay off, but to be really good takes an incredible amount of time." To reach her personal goals, she runs ten to fifteen miles a day, in addition to physical therapy exercises that keep her back pain to a minimum.

As far as relating her fitness to a military perspective, Cartwright completed the required 448th CA Bn 10K ruck march in 64 minutes. The 448th is part of the Army's Special Operations Command. Members of the unit are required to complete the 10K ruck march with 55 pounds of weight in their rucksack.

Most recently, she competed in her first half-marathon finishing in a respectable 12th place.

"Currently I am sponsored by Mizuno which covers my equipment expenses, eventually I hope to be selected to the Army World Class Athlete Program so that I can work less and focus more on training. It takes a lot of work to get to the next level and you definitely make some personal and social sacrifices. I know that I am going to have to do more to compete at the level I want and I am willing to do what it takes."

In addition to running, Cartwright will attend graduate school to complete a Physician Assistant certification. She also has hopes of qualifying for the Olympic trials.

"While I recognize that my goals are high, I don't think they are out of reach and I don't believe you accomplish much if you never take a risk. I also think it is important to verbalize your goals because it makes you accountable."

Cartwright recently deployed to Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Guard.

Staff Sgt. McDonald is with the Public Affairs Office, 448th Civil Affairs Battalion, Fort Lewis, Wash.

ARMY RESERVE ENGINEERS

Photos by Maj. Erwin Ruiz Balmceller

(left) Maj. Steven Strem checks relocated pier electrical power near Army landing craft.

(right) A distinctive bend can be seen in the failing quay wall that Maj. Steven Strem stands beside.

(below) The newly refurbished home of Brig. Gen Mason Hall Army Reserve Center.

"The 416th Engineer folks were a real force multiplier."

By Master Sgt. David Cooper

Across the United States, closing military bases stand as decaying monuments to the greatest battle of the second half of the Twentieth Century – the Cold War. Like ghost towns of the Old West, countless barracks, piers and runways now sit idle.

At the Mare Island Naval Shipyard in California, Army Reserve Engineers are returning some of these assets to productivity.

For the past four years, members of the U.S. Army Facility Engineer Group have helped convert part of Mare Island Naval Shipyard to a Maritime Center of Excellence through a steady stream of customized consulting engineering services, including design, project and construction management, inspections, surveys, independent government estimates and scopes of work.

These Reservists provide this service at a fraction of the cost of civilian contractors. Team members estimate that the cost savings for the work of the Army Reserve engineers on over $13 million of completed or proposed construction projects exceeds $120,000.

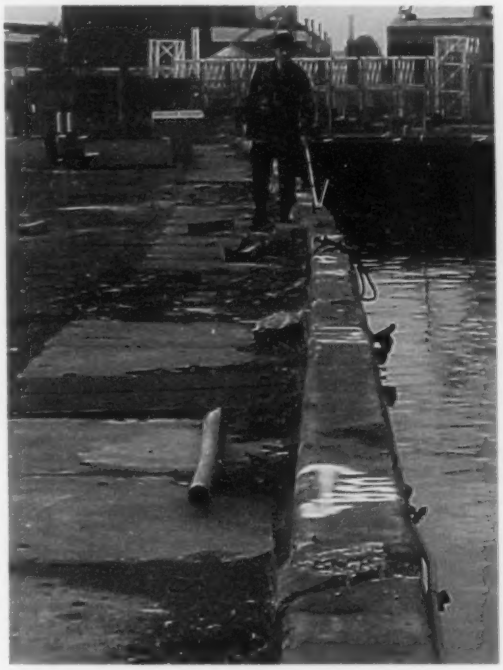
The U.S. Navy established Mare Island Naval Shipyard, or MINSY, in 1854, for building and outfitting war fighting sea craft. Under continuous construction and adaptation, MINSY became an intricate maze of facilities, piers, dry docks and berths producing 512 ships between 1854 and 1970.

When MINSY closed in 1994 under the Base Realignment and Closure Program, the Army Reserve's 63rd Regional Support Command acquired a 25-acre, waterfront site, with two 700-foot finger piers, two 55,000 square-foot barracks buildings, one 22,000 square-foot wooden office building, a bunker, a former McDonalds restaurant, two maintenance buildings and a fire station.

Mare Island's infrastructure, with its piers, offices, maintenance facilities and access to the San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean seemed a choice location for the 63rd's Maritime Center of Excellence. The plan was to collocate Engineer, Heavy Boat and Port Construction units, and create a realistic water-training site for water borne units.

HELP CONVERT BASE

The Reserve Engineer team, which included Registered Professional Engineers with decades of construction expertise, provided detailed analyses on how this could best be accomplished. They provided the contracting agency with a bid-ready document that could immediately be given to contractors, which expedited construction.



Over the course of the project, the team submitted work on remodeling barracks buildings into offices, relocating a Marine Army Maintenance Support Activity (AMSA), converting a bunker into a brigade-sized arms room, options for dining facilities and adapting an asphalt lot to a Military Equipment Storage area, including a hazardous waste storage site.

The pivotal selection factor for locating the Maritime Center of Excellence at MINSY was the two 700-foot finger piers. Potentially capable of supporting ten US Army Port construction Landing Craft, Unit (LCU), the piers required repair, and the utilities on the piers required upgrade. The Reserve Engineers investigated the condition of the utilities and provided recommendations to independently meter and upgrade sewer, water and electrical.

Since the finger piers were not configured for US Army watercraft, the points of connections for the services had to be dismantled from the unit's former location, brought to MINSY and installed on the piers.

The team conducted coordination with the local utility providers for current metering strategy and developed Scopes of Work for repair and upgrade. At final count, eight U.S. Army LCUs are anchored on the two 700-foot piers, each with its own dedicated services.

An essential part of the operations of the boats were the associated maintenance facilities. The Reserve Engineers developed a flexible plan combining a temporary Marine AMSA solution with a permanent Marine / Ground AMSA. In early 2000, relocation of a Butler building and conversion into a structurally sound Marine AMSA with dedicated utilities, cranes, generators and maintenance tools was completed at a cost of less than $260,000.

Other projects included the $1M renovation of a 55,000 square-foot, three-story brick building, including the last-minute addition of a Total Army Distance Learning Center; a 750 drilling Reservists dining facility proposal for an abandoned McDonalds restaurant; and perimeter and grounds construction projects totaling over $250,000.

Maj. Gen John Scott, Commanding General of 63rd RSC, expressed his appreciation, by saying, "The 416th Engineer folks were a real force multiplier. Under general direction from my Engineer, they took the point and provided the initial site surveys and engineering analyses that enabled the Mare Island acquisition to proceed."

Army Reserve Engineers from the U.S. Army Facility Engineer Group showed their effectiveness with this mission and provided not only fiscal value and improved quality of life, but proved that innovative thinking within the military engineer community can produce high quality construction results, on time and within budget.

Because of them, Mare Island Naval Shipyard is neither resting in peace nor rusting in peace, but continues to contribute to the Nation's safety and well-being.

Master Sgt. Cooper is with the Facility Engineer Group, Darien, Ill.

FATS, from page 47

FATS was a totally new experience for him.

"I have never shot a gun before the simulator," he said. "When I signed up two months ago, I had no idea about the FATS system. Now that I have fired, though, I think that it is pretty cool, and I think that it will better prepare me for basic training."

Jacka agreed, saying, "Anytime we can make a training event more realistic and more enjoyable, soldiers will take more of the training with them to use in the future."

Spc. Lucas is with the 366th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Des Moines, Iowa.

Snapshots

Special Honors

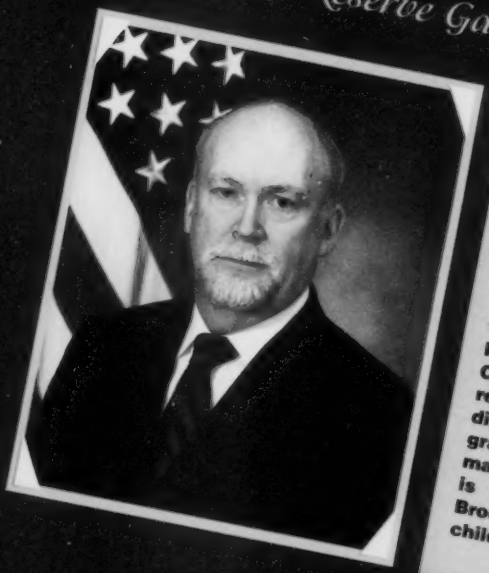
Lt. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, Chief, Army Reserve, is presented a replica of the Reserve Officer Association's (ROA) Minuteman Award by Col. David E. Davenport, ROA's Army Section Vice President. A letter was also presented to him following an announcement of the establishment of "The Lieutenant General Thomas J. Plewes Reserve Components National Security Strategy Writing Award" at the Army War College. The letter, signed by Maj. Gen. Robert Ivany, Commandant of the Army War College, stated that this award, sponsored by ROA, recognizes student authors judged to have written the best papers addressing Reserve Component roles, missions, and contributions to the National Military Strategy or other significant strategic issues related to the Reserve Components. Two awards will be presented to the graduating class, beginning with the Class of 2002, one to a student enrolled in the Resident program and one to a student in the Distance Education program.

A Show of Thanks

Brig. Gen Collis Phillips, Commander of the 65th Regional Support Command, headquartered in Puerto Rico, presents a plaque to the Washington, D.C.'s Fire Chief Ronnie Few for support provided during the Pentagon's rescue and recovery efforts in the aftermath of Sept. 11. Phillips also presented a plaque to the United States Naval Criminal Investigative Service Director David L. Brant during the Washington, D.C. ceremony. The plaques were presented on behalf of Army Secretary Thomas White and Army Chief of Staff General Eric Shinski.

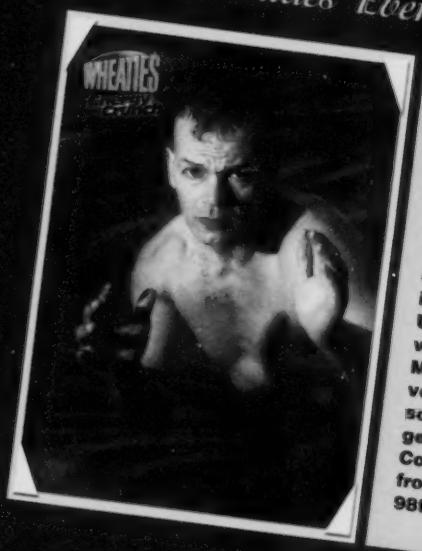
Iowa

Army Reserve Gains its First SES Member



The Army Reserve's first member of the Senior Executive Service was sworn in during a Pentagon ceremony recently. Professor Daniel F. Wiener II became the first SES member in the history of the Army Reserve when he assumed the position of Chief Information Officer (CIO), United States Army Reserve, in January 2002. Prior to assuming this position, Weiner served in the private sector as President and Managing Principal for Astron Communications Group. As CIO, Wiener is responsible to the Chief, Army Reserve, for directing and overseeing plans and programs for all Army Reserve corporate information systems. The Jackson, Mich. Native is married to the former Susan Hoff of Brooklyn, N.Y., and together they have four children: Janet, Rebecca, Brett and Christi.

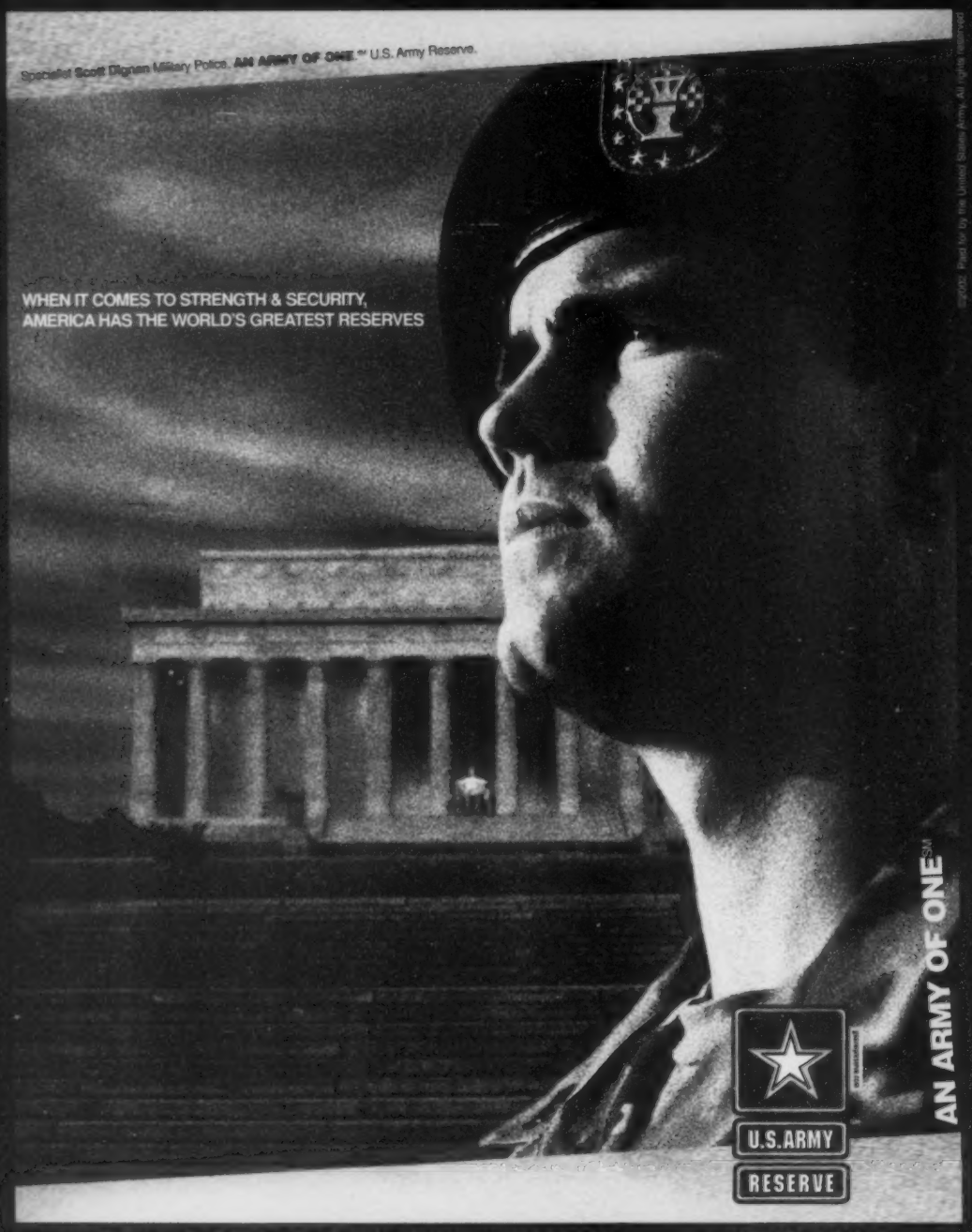
Wheaties Everyday Champion



Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class James "Chico" Hernandez of Washburn, Maine was recently selected as finalist in the Wheaties Energy Crunch Search For Everyday Champions. Hernandez is an 18-year veteran of the Army and excels in the grueling sport of Sombo wrestling. He is a two-time member of the Team USA World Cup. When he is not working as a social worker at the Maine Correctional Institute, he volunteers his time with area schools to warn kids of the dangers of drugs and crime. He is a Combat Basic Training Instructor from A co.1/391st, 7th. Brigade, 98th Division (IT).

vs Iowa

The 366th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, an Army Reserve unit whose loyalties are split evenly between Iowa State University and the University of Iowa, settled their bragging rights recently with a flag-football game at the Eagle Base, Bosnia, soccer field. The unit held its own version of the annual Iowa State University/University of Iowa football matchup, on Oct. 2, 2001. Pictured are (front row L-R) Capt. Ed Bryja, Spc. Daniel Lucas, Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Larsen (Iowa State team captain), Staff Sgt. Ray Calef (Iowa team captain). (back row) 1st Sgt. John Talbott, Capt. David Cruse, Spc. Grant Calease, Cpl. Anthony Koch, Spc. Joe Villines, Spc. Shawn Vodenik.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